THE BLACK PANTHER

INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE

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Inside

Ericka Huggins Organizes First Community Meeting

BLACKS CONFRONT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION



BPINS photos

As a result of efforts by Oakland Community School Director ERICKA HUGGINS (inset) the Alameda County Board of Education held its first meeting in East Oakland. Ms. Huggins was instrumental in the Board's recent decision to rotate its monthly meetings in the communities served by Board members.

(Oakland, Calif.) — The Alameda County Board of Education held an unprecedented meeting last Thursday at Lockwood Elementary School here in the heart of East Oakland's predominantly Black community. During the three-hour and 15-minute meeting, some 150 community people — the majority of whom were attending a county Board of Education meeting for the first time — raised a number of key questions and criticisms related to the functioning of the Board and made concrete suggestions as to how the Board could become more accountable to the community it is elected to serve.

In addition, the community expressed its sincere desire to work with the Board in improving the quality of education in the public schools of the county, specifically as it relates to Black and other minority youth.

It was through the efforts of Oakland Community School Director Ericka Huggins that last week's meeting was held in East Oakland. Ericka, who was elected to the Board on July 1 as its first Black member, was instrumental in the Board's recent decision to rotate its monthly meetings in the seven trustee areas under the Board's jurisdiction. Ericka represents Trustee Area 6, which covers the Oakland flatlands.

Several community leaders and citizens expressed their appreciation that the county Board of Education had come to East Oakland. Paul Cobb, the Black Executive Director of Oakland Citizens' Committee for Urban Renewal (OCCUR), commented:

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Editorial

THE MODEL SCHOOL

The Oakland Community School (OCS) is known throughout Oakland and the state of California as a model educational institution. Two events of last week provide examples of why the School has rightfully earned this reputation.

Last Thursday, OCS Director Ericka Huggins organized the first meeting of the Alameda County Board of Education ever held in the Black community of East Oakland. (See cover story). Since she began to serve as director of the OCS, Ericka has been concerned at the serious lack of communication between the Black and poor community and the Board of Education — the chief body administering the public schools of this county. Until Ericka was elected to the Board last July 1, it had never had any Black representation. As OCCUR Executive Director Paul Cobb said, most Black people "did not know the Board existed off of paper."

Thus, one of Ericka's first major actions following her election was to ask the Board to take a concrete step in erasing the void that exists between it and the oppressed people of Alameda County — by leaving the sheltered confines of its Hayward headquarters and rotating its meetings in the trustee areas that Board members are elected to serve.

The October 14 meeting held at Lockwood Elementary School was a resounding success, a beautiful example of community concern and input into the issues that affect the running of our public schools. By the large turnout and enthusiastic participation, the Black community of Oakland showed that it is vitally concerned about the education of its children.

Then, on Friday, the OCS distinguished itself as the only school to put on an exhibit at the Western Regional Meeting of Black Engineers and Scientists. (See article, page 3.) The exhibit, designed and constructed by three 10-year-olds at the School, was on the level of high school work in public schools.

The Oakland Community School is indeed a model — an example of the kind of education that not only Black and poor youth but all children of America deserve. □



Letters to the Editor

THE HIROSHIMA APPEAL

Dear Friends,

In deep admiration for the work of the Black Panther Party, and in shared love for the survival of all Earth's children, whatever broader circulation of this appeal we can achieve — by reprinting in THE BLACK PANTHER, by passing it on to other sympathetic people and media that you know, etc. . . .we think this appeal can make the difference. And can unify — in common necessity — the people of this world and this country in opposition to the military domination and the militaristic mentality which is to a large extent the source and executor of our oppression. This appeal comes from Japan — and the Japanese who brought it here to us have taught us what strength there is in the united loving spirit of the people. (Probably the most important political words to me have always been Chairman Huey P. Newton's — "The spirit of the people is greater than man's technology.") I hope Huey can return soon from Cuba.

With you for Life,
Hojiel J.

HIROSHIMA APPEAL
presented to the United States by
Japan Council Against A&H Bombs (Gensuikyo)
THE CONTINENTAL WALK FOR DISARMAMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

We, the undersigned, support the "Hiroshima Appeal," and request that the governments of the nuclear weapons states and all other states and the United Nations Organization undertake the following:

•To bring about an international agreement for the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons.

•To immediately institute measures for the banning of the use of nuclear weapons, recognizing that the use of any nuclear weapons under any circumstances is a crime under law and a crime against humanity.

FOOD BOYCOTT AT McNEIL PENITENTIARY

To the Black Panther Party:

The food boycott at McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary last weekend only touched briefly on a myriad of frustrations that are plaguing the men over there. The boycott lasted only three days. It was brought quickly to an end because men were brought in from the farm and told to go to the dining hall to convince others that the strike was over.

McNeil (according to their figures) was built to hold about 1,000 men. The newspaper report quoted the warden as revealing there were now 1,344 inmates. However, there is a discrepancy somewhere since a guard quoted "close to 1,800" when he was interviewed the same day.

Because of the strike, several men were shipped out "at midnight" and sent to Lompoc, California. They had been identified as the "ring-leaders."

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COMMENT

Let The Truth Be Written

The following article, written by Piri Thomas, is reprinted from the New York Times.

As a writer, I have always fought for the right to write, for writing is a time-honored means of communication. Lack of communication, the refusal of some to understand, or outright refusal to learn about other human beings is based on fear. Fear is what keeps people apart.

The seven members of the Island Trees School Board Levittown, L.I., have voted to remove from the shelves of the district's junior high school and high school libraries nine books: *The Best Short Stories by Negro Writers*, edited by a most-honored brother, Langston Hughes; *A Hero Ain't Nothing But a Sandwich*, by Alice Childress; *A Reader for Writers* by Jerome W. Archer, *Slaughterhouse Five*, by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.; *The Fixer*, by Bernard Malamud; *Go Ask Alice*, whose author is anonymous; *The Naked Ape*, by Desmond Morris; and my own autobiographical, *Down These Mean Streets*. *Laughing Boy*, Richard Wright, was placed on a restricted list.

How dare a few have the arrogance and presumption to decide what is suitable to be read and written!

History has taught us that in any suppression of human rights and dignity the first to be negated are the writers and poets. We should all know about the burning of the books during the dark days of the birth of Nazism in Germany.

Book-banning is to my point of view becoming a dangerous threat to our freedoms in this land of the free and home of the brave.

Down These Mean Streets was published in 1967. Ever since, there have been attempts to suppress it in Salinas, Calif., Teaneck, N.J.; Darien, Conn.; District 25, Queens, in addition to the latest effort in Long Island. I have personally appeared, where possible, in some of the places where the book has been banned, not to defend its having been written but to assert its right to be read.

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THE BLACK PANTHER

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Committee To Campaign For P, Q And R Formed

(Oakland, Calif.) - The formation of a committee to campaign for the passage of Measures P, Q and R in the November elections was annouced last week at a press conference held at OCCUR (Oakland Citizens' Committee for Urban Renewal) headquarters in downtown Oakland.

Convening the press conference were Sally Sprague, OCCUR president, Jan Kaufmann, president of the League of Women Voters, and Oakland mayor John Reading, all of whom are co-chairpersons of the Committee for P, Q and R. Also present was OCCUR executive Director Paul Cobb and Alameda County Superior Court Judge Lionel Wilson.

Measure P calls for the construction of 600 units of low-income replacement housing for the Grove-Shafter Freeway project (300 units) and the City Center Project (300 units); Measure Q calls for the construction of 1,850 rental housing units through funds provided by the California Housing Finance Agency (CHFA) and a related program; and Measure R calls for the city of Oakland to acquire 1,750 units of abandoned or dilapidated housing for rehabilitation along with the construction of 500 units of senior citizens' housing. In all, 3,700 units of badly-needed housing face voter approval on November 2.

REPLACEMENT HOUSING

OCCUR Executive Director Paul Cobb pointed out, very importantly, that the plaintiffs who have either filed suit already or have threatened to file suit over the replacement housing — Elaine Brown, chairperson of the Black Panther Party, Elijah Turner, of the Oakland Black Caucus and the Legal Aid Society of Alameda County — were all in support of the measures.

The city's official endorsement of the measures and of affirmative action for City Center is the result of extreme pressure by a group of Oakland Black leaders, led by Elaine Brown, Paul Cobb, Elijah Turner, and Lionel Wilson.

It was Elaine who recently led a delegation of concerned Oakland activists to Sacramento, meeting with Governor Jerry Brown to reaffirm his commitment to update the vital connecting link the Grove-Shafter represents and thus ensure the possibility of 10,000 permanent jobs coming to this impoverished area. □

THREE 10-YEAR-OLDS CONSTRUCT SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

O.C.S. SCIENCE EXHIBIT IMPRESSES BLACK ENGINEERS

(Emeryville, Calif.) - The Western Regional Meeting of Black Engineers and Scientists had the enviable opportunity last Friday of seeing in action the innovative teaching methods of the Oakland Community School (OCS).

Three 10-year-old Level 7 students of the model East Oakland school expertly demonstrated a three-stage simulated sewage treatment plant which they constructed and designed themselves.

The meeting, held here at the Holiday Inn on October 14, 15, and 16, was sponsored by the Northern California Council of Black Professional Engineers. The theme for the three-day conference was "Using Technology for Black Development." Conference workshops revolved around the formation of a common strategy for Black engineers and scientists to develop in order to make their fields more responsive to the needs of the Black community.





BPINS photos

ERICKA HUGGINS (above, center) addresses meeting of Black engineers and scientists while OCS students (left to right), JAMES WILSON, SEAN CARTER and ALISHA KEYES demonstrate simulated sewage treatment plant.

On Thursday, October 14, OCS Director Ericka Huggins, James Abron, the School's Mathematics and Science Departmental head, and Mathematics instructor Joan Kelley appeared before a conference workshop concerning the teaching of mathematics and science to Black and minority youth. Ericka presented a position paper outlining the OCS's creative approach to the education of elementary level youth, emphasizing the Mathematics and Science curricula of the School.

"Science, being the study of the material world and the laws governing its physical development and functions, is one of the major areas of study at Oakland Community School. . ." Ericka said. "Science at Oakland Community School begins with understanding the existence of matter and its motion, examining the systematic arrangement of the material world," she added.

In describing the OCS Mathematics curriculum, Ericka noted, "Our focus. . .emphasizes a concrete understanding of its (mathematics) foundation with emphasis on its most practical aspects first. We believe that thorough grounding in the basic computational skills (concept and application) will enable any student to understand and use numbers in every day life. . ."

The simulated sewage treatment plant demonstrated on Friday by Level 7 students Alisha Keyes, Sean Carter and James Wilson was the only conference exhibit put on by a school. All others were provided by companies, such as the Exxon

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Fallen Comrade

WALTER "TOURE" POPE



Assassinated October 18, 1969

Walter "Toure" Pope joined the Black Panther Party as soon as he was released from the California Youth Authority, Tracy Penitentiary. Toure, who was only 20, quickly became singled out by the Los Angeles Police Department for his effectiveness in increasing the circulation of THE BLACK PANTHER in Southern California. In three months Toure increased our newspaper's circulation from 1,500 to 7,000 copies a week. After three false arrests, Toure's life became increasingly in danger. On October 18, 1969, Toure was gunned down brutally by the LAPD Metro Squad as he left a store where he had just dropped off some newspapers. Long Live the Spirit of Walter "Toure" Pope! Long Live the People's Struggle!!

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

SWINE FLU VACCINE DEATH TOLL RISING

45 Die Within 48 Hours After Getting Shots

(Atlanta, Ga.) - Despite the deaths of at least 45 people in 18 states within 48 hours after receiving swine flu injections, officials here at the Center for Disease Control and in Washington, D.C., continue to cover up the politically-inspired program, maintaining that there is "no evidence whatsoever" that the vaccinations are responsible for the mounting casuality toll.

In addition, under pressure from the Ford administration, which is said to have embarked on the massive $135 million national swine flu immunization program as a campaign ploy, nine states which had totally or partially suspended the flu shots have resumed operations.

The 45 deaths, however, represent a significant jolt to the program, which has innoculated approximately two and a half million people since it began on October 1. Doubts concerning the vacinne's safety so racked the program last week that on Wednesday President Ford offered his body as a test sample.

In New York City, for example, police had to erect barricades on Monday morning to contain the more than 850 people who showed up at one public health center to take the shot. On Tuesday, after initial reports that three elderly people died from swine flu shots in Pittsburgh, only one person was waiting at the barricades.

Similar drop-offs, though not as spectacular, in the numbers of persons taking the vaccinations were reported in various parts of the country.

Yet, long lines of people awaiting the much-debated injections continue. In a bizarre scene in California's Santa Clara County, seven elderly people suffered heart attacks while waiting under a blazing sun for their shots.

ILL-CONCEIVED

Trouble is nothing new, however, to the swine flu program, which has been tormented by dilemmas since its ill-conceived origins earlier this year.

In early January, an influenza outbreak at Ft. Dix, New Jersey — one soldier died, of questionable causes — was suddenly linked with the same "killer virus" responsible for the 1918-19 flu epidemic that killed 548,000 Americans and 20 million persons worldwide.



I. HEARD, of the Los Angeles County Health Department, displays swine flu vaccine for high risk patients.

Although there is no proof that the virus, A/New Jersey/76 as it is officially known, is a new variant of the 1918 "killer," nor that it ever spread outside of the Ft. Dix area, by March President Ford had rushed his nationwide innoculation program through Congress.

The swine flu program was delayed during the spring and summer months by a dispute between private industry and the federal government over damage suit liability. Then one vaccine maker, (there are four), caused further delays by producing a large amount of vaccine against the wrong virus strain. Another false start occurred this fall when industry manufacturers refused to ship the vaccine until federal liability coverage began on October 1.

Insensed by the rising death toll, critics of the program are presently publicizing two significant facts concerning the swine flu shots:

•That the injections do not contain a key protein which gives the vaccine much of its protection power, therefore making the shots less than effective; and

•No guidelines at all have yet been issued for one large segment of the population — children and teenagers between the ages of 3 and 18 years old who have no chronic illnesses. Tests of various vaccines showed that some produced strong adverse reactions while others did not give enough immunity. Whether authorities will "recommend" shots for this age group will be decided October 22 or shortly thereafter. □

In Memoriam

John B. Williams



Over the course of some 12 years, and now forever, the name JOHN B. WILLIAMS became synonymous with the redevelopment and revitalization of the city of Oakland. Combining a charismatic charm — that quick wink and smile — and articulate intellect (traits of his native Covington, Georgia), with an unceasing concern for the plight of Black and poor communities, John B. Williams exemplified an unabashed enthusiasm to clean up the blight and decay which threatened the inner-cities, taking on the White administrators at City Hall singlehandedly, if need be. Williams envisioned a "better world for oppressed people, and to his credit he tried, he fought, and he succeeded, in many ways, to bring his dreams about. His death last week of cancer is mourned; his life's work, a city which enshrines the human spirit, becomes the task of us all.

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

October 17, 1787

On October 17, 1787, Boston Blacks petitioned the legislature for equal school facilities. The group was led by Prince Hall, Masonic leader and Revolutionary War veteran.

October 17, 1871

President Grant issued a proclamation against the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina and suspended the writ of habeas corpus in nine counties on October 17, 1871. However, this measure would prove to be too little too late as the Klan spread throughout the South massacreing and terrorizing Black people.

October 19, 1943

On October 19, 1943, the Theater Guild presentation of *Othello* opened at the Shubert Theater with Paul Robeson in the title role. The production ran for 296 performances and set a record for Shakesperean drama on Broadway.

October 18, 1945

The great Paul Robeson received the NAACP's Spingarn Medal for his unprecedented achievements in the theater and on the concert stage on October 18, 1945.

October 23, 1947

On October 23, 1947, the NAACP presented a petition on racial injustices in America, "An Appeal to the World," formally presented to the United Nations at Lake Success.

October 21, 1972

The National Black Assembly met in Chicago on October 21, 1972, to establish a permanent organizational structure, as mandated by the National Black Political Convention which met in Gary, Indiana, in March, 1972.





BPINS photos

Mrs. AUTREY SMITH, treasurer of the San Antonio Tenants' Union, serves refreshments to youth (left), while young women get down at last Saturday's San Antonio Community Festival.

500 ENJOY FUN-FILLED AFTERNOON AT SAN ANTONIO COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

(Oakland, Calif.) - Close to 500 people came out to a lively and enjoyable Community Festival at Greenman Field here in East Oakland last Saturday, in an event sponsored by the San Antonio Tenants' Union. Residents from the San Antonio Villa and Lockwood Gardens housing projects thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon of good food, good music and good times.





BPINS photos

Children occupy themselves with games at San Antonio Community Festival (above), while (left), crowd gathers to listen to the soulful band tunes.

The event, which was held to benefit the youth of San Antonio Villa, was the culmination of long, hard hours of work by the residents of San Antonio Villa. Particular mention must go to the Tenants' Union president Bessie Thomas and treasurer Autrey Smith for their persistent and constructive efforts in this regard.

The entertainment for the day was provided by "Foolish Pleasure" and the "Urban Renewal Band." After overcoming initial sound system difficulties, both bands were crowdpleasers with their hard-driving soul beat. A surprise treat was provided by a quartet of get-down "robot" dancers from the Villa, who almost stole the show from both bands.

Special thanks was given to Bill Wiliams, Jr., the president of the Zodiacs, a local youth group, who very ably organized the music for the afternoon.

Throughout the afternoon some very delicious and hearty bar-be-qued chicken dinners — consisting of chicken, candied yams, potato salad, vegetables, cornbread and a cool beverage — were sold. At the day's end the workers at the food table were exhausted from serving the crowds who flocked these booths.

For the younger set, hot dogs, hamburgers, popcorn, candied apples and punch were provided, while those who had a sweet tooth occupied themselves with some down-home peach cobbler and sweet potato pie.

Also, for the many children who were there, a set of games, such as a bean bag toss, ring toss, milk bottle throw and a tic-tac-toe throw were on hand. They commanded the youth's individual attention until the music began playing.

At the conclusion of the festival a drawing was held to determine the three lucky winners of a raffle sponsored by the Tenants' Union. The lucky first place winners won a weekend for two at the Hyatt Edgewater Inn (Oakland).

All in all the event was a great success as members of the San Antonio Tenants' Union were able to create a beautiful fun-filled atmosphere for everyone in attendance. The funds raised at the event will in turn be used towards providing some sorely-needed recreational activities for San Antonio youth, the cause of several housing protests in recent months organized by the Tenants' Union activists in conjunction with the Black Panther Party.

Now that the community festival has been accomplished, tenants will refocus attention on the Oakland Housing Authority (OHA) to demand speedy action on various suggestions which were made by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) inspection team. □

George, Dellums, Chavez, Bates Campaign In North Oakland



(Oakland, Calif.) - North Oakland was the scene last Saturday of some friendly door-to-door campaigning by attorney JOHN GEORGE (third from left), candidate for Alameda County supervisor, Fifth District, and United Farm Workers (UFW) of America President CESAR CHAVEZ (far left), who was on hand to urge precinct voters to support Proposition 14, the farmworkers' initiative. Lending their support for attorney George and Proposition 14 were popular Bay Area Congressman RON DELLUMS (center), candidate for a third term in the U.S. House of Representatives, 8th Congressional District, and present Alameda County Supervisor, TOM BATES (far right), who is seeking his first term in the state assembly.

North Oaklanders were pleasantly surprised to open their doors to find the friendly faces of the four progressive political and labor leaders who most certainly will win support throughout Oakland, as well as all of Alameda County, in the upcoming November 2 election.

BPINS photo

BLACKS CONFRONT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

"If your coming to East Oakland is an indication as to the direction the Board might go, there might be some cause for hope. . .I think that this is a positive action, to come to the Black community of East Oakland. I hope that you will pursue this and come to. . .other parts of Alameda County where minorities predominate." He also urged the Board to seek greater community participation.

In addition to Ericka, other Board members present at the October 14 meeting were Mrs. Mary Hardy, Charles Deadrich, John Penna and Ronald Motta. Mrs. Virginia Birdshall and Charles Briscoe, current Board president, were absent. Also present were Rocke LaFleche, Alameda County superintendent of schools, and several members of his staff.

A major item on the agenda for the evening — and one that received considerable community input — concerned the public hearings on the appointment of two people to the Alameda County Personnel Commission.

PERSONNEL COMMISSION

As of July 1, the Alameda County Board of Education became fiscally independent of the county Board of Supervisors. As a result, the office of the superintendent of schools has had to develop a merit system of employment guiding the recruitment and retention of county school personnel. The three-member Personnel Commission is responsible for:

•Establishing the qualifications for all classified school employees;

•Recommending an annual salary schedule to the Board of Education;

•Establishing procedures for the selection of classified staff;

•Holding disciplinary hearings concerning actions of classified employees; and

•Developing rules and regulations that govern classified employees.

In accordance with state policy, of the two candidates considered for the Personnel Commission, one is nominated by the Board and one by the California School Employees Association. The third member will be selected by these two nominees, if they are appointed, within 30 days.

It was pointed out that notices that candidates were being considered for the Personnel Commission had been distributed to the press and various community agencies. However, it was clear that those present were unaware that such a process had gone on.





PAUL COBB (above), executive director of OCCUR, and ANTHONY DAVIS address Alameda County Board of Education at recent East Oakland meeting.

Anthony Davis, administrative director of the Inner City Project, suggested that the community be given time to submit nominations for the third member of the Personnel Commission as well as to recommend other names for the Commission seat appointed by the Board of Education. Following the passage of a motion made by Ericka to table appointments to the Personnel Commission until the next Board meeting, the community was asked to submit their nominations to the Office of the County Superintendent of Schools, 224 West Winton Avenue, Hayward, Calif. 94544.

At one point during the meeting, Ericka expressed her concern at the presence of two uniformed policemen of the Oakland Unified School District Security Patrol. Noting that police had not been present at meetings held at the Board's headquarters in Hayward, Ericka wondered if the police were present because the meeting was being held in East Oakland.

Among the other matters discussed at the meeting were:

•Appointments to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB) — SARB consists of local review boards in the districts of a county and a SARB board at the county level that work to keep youth with problems in school attendance from becoming detained in county juvenile detention facilities, which operate under the Board of Education's jurisdiction.

•Approval of a list of 30 films that the county may consider for purchase — Ericka was strongly critical of one film entitled *Alaskan Eskimo*, which she said, after reading its description aloud, "reeks of racism." She emphasized that there needs to be a very thorough procedure for reviewing the films used in the public schools of the county.

It was explained that if a citizen feels a film is inappropriate, he or she can complete a complaint form provided by the superintendent of schools. A review committee will subsequently review the film and make a recommendation to the Board.

Paul Cobb suggested that a citizens' advisory task force be established that would review films and make suggestions, particularly concerning films related to Black and minority people. It is now being determined whether the Board can implement Cobb's suggestion.

Proposition 8 — Under this initiative, voters in nonchartered counties in California (nonchartered counties are those that operate largely independent of the state) would (1) decide whether to elect or appoint their school superintendents; (2) decide whether they wish to join together with another county in forming a single county board of education; and (3) fix the salary of the superintendent.

Board member Ronald Motta strongly urged the Board not to take a position on Proposition 8, largely because Alameda County is a chartered county. The Board voted not to take a position.

The meeting concluded with an invitation from Dr. Harold Varner of KDIA Radio that Board members join Ericka in appearing on a monthly KDIA program called "County Board Report." Individual Board members expressed their willingness to appear on the program.

The next meeting of the Alameda County Board of Education will be held on Thursday, October 28, at 8:00 p.m. at the Berkeley Board of Education Building, 1414 Walnut, Berkeley. The public is invited to attend.□

EYES ON CITY HALL

$100,000 For Legal Assistance

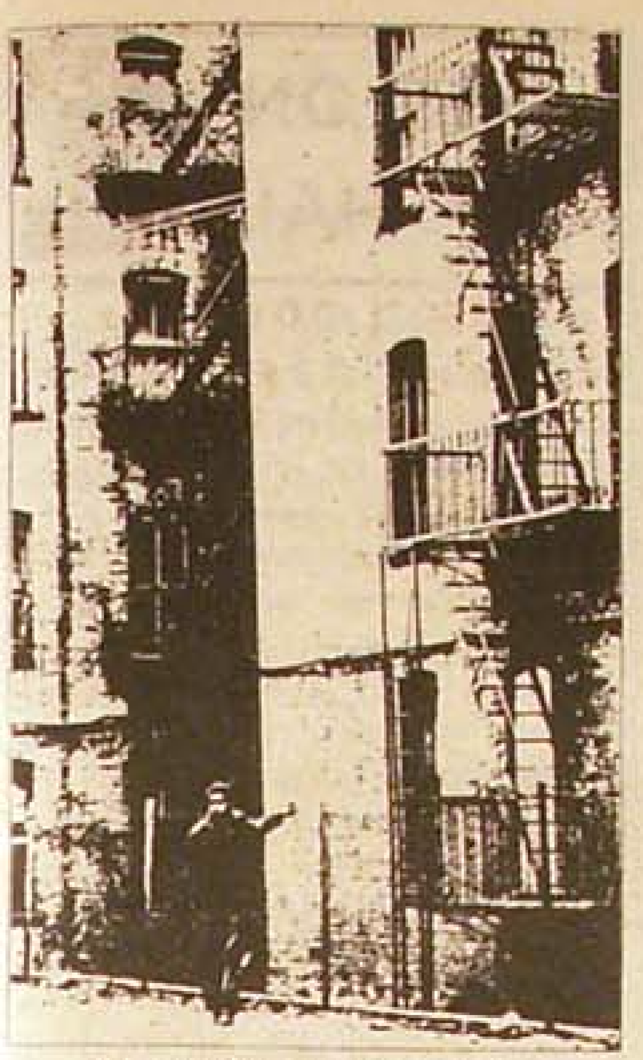
(Oakland, Calif.) - The Charles Houston Bar Association here was recently awarded a one-year, $100,000 grant from the Legal Services Corporation to test alternative and supplemental methods of delivering legal assistance to low-income people. The grant is part of the nationwide Delivery Systems Study, mandated by Congress. The Charles Houston program will utilize members of the private bar, with payment for their services provided through "Judicare," similar to the medical profession's Medicare. Persons unable to afford legal services will be required to pay what they can afford, sometimes nothing. All phases of law will be handled and the Charles Houston Bar Association will act as the referral agency and operate the test program.

Minorities In Construction

(Oakland, Calif.) - Minority business participation in the Oakland school district's construction contract has doubled since the adoption by the school board last December of a 25 per cent mandatory minority participation quota. According to the *Oakland Post*, a report shows minorities taking up 33.4 per cent of $12.8 million school construction business so far this year, compared to 17.2 per cent of $15.7 million they received before the adoption of this policy. Before the quota agreement, the minority work force in construction amounted to 53.3 per cent, and took home 49.4 per cent of the total wages paid. Since the measure was adopted, the minority work force has increased to 53.8 per cent and it is now taking home 58.3 per cent of the total wages.

"Town Hall" On P,QAnd R

(Oakland, Calif.) - OCCUR, the city's official citizen's participation arm, is sponsoring a very important "town hall" meeting on Measures P, Q and R on Thursday, October 21, 7:30 p.m. at the Kaiser Center auditorium on 20th and Harrison. Numerous experts who will explain the necessity of passing the key housing measures will be speaking. (See article, page 3).



Puerto Rican "barrio."

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

Plight Of Puerto Ricans In U.S. Worsening

(Washington, D.C.) - After 30 years of significant migration, the plight of Puerto Ricans in the U.S. is worsening, according to a report released last week by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, with the number of Puerto Rican people "still trapped in poverty" rising annually.

In the first national study of Puerto Rican immigrants undertaken by a federal agency, the five-member independent Commission found the problems of unemployment and poverty are "more severe than that of virtually any ethnic group in the United States."

Part of the reason for this persisting pattern, the Commission charged, is government "insensitivity," and "discrimination."

The report found that "a dismayingly high percentage of Puerto Ricans are still trapped in poverty," with a growth pattern from 29 per cent in 1970 to nearly 33 per cent in 1974.

At a press conference announcing the report, the Commission Chairman, Arthur Flemming, a former Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), remarked:

"A decade or so ago, it was quite common to hear that Puerto Ricans would in a matter of years make it in American society in the same fashion that some immigrant families from Europe have climbed the economic, political and social ladder in the United States. Unfortunately these optimistic predictions have not been realized for most Puerto Ricans."

Compiled from diverse official statistics, from testimony at hearings from 1971 through 1976 throughout the country and from hundreds of interviews, the report says:

"Official insensitivity, coupled with private and public acts of discrimination, has assured that Puerto Ricans are often the last in line for benefits and opportunities made available by the social and civil rights legislation of the last decade."

For example, over 50 per cent of the Puerto Ricans who held civil service jobs in New York City lost them in the recent cutbacks. In fact, the 33 per cent poverty figure for Puerto Ricans is significantly higher than the 24 per cent figure for Mexican-Americans or 14.3 per cent for Cuban-Americans.

Entitled *Puerto Ricans in the Continental United States: An Uncertain Future*, the report was published in a 170-page English version and a 190-page Spanish edition.□

RENOUNCES ANTISKYJACKING AGREEMENT, CITIES ASSASSINATION PLOT

CASTRO CHARGES "C.I.A. COMPLICITY" IN FATAL PLANE BOMBING

(Havana, Cuba) - Speaking at a funeral rally here for the 78 persons killed when a Cubana Airlines plane was bombed in flight on October 6, Cuban Premier Fidel Castro angrily renounced his government's 1973 antiskyjacking agreement with the U.S., accusing the CIA of both complicity in that incident as well as several earlier incidents including renewed assassination attempts on his life.

Accusing the U.S. of being "resentful of Cuba's contribution to the defeat suffered by imperialists and racists" in the People's Republic of Angola earlier this year, Castro, in a fiery address, listed nine separate CIA-inspired attacks aimed at Cuban diplomatic missions and at Cubana Airlines since April 6. "The government of President Gerald Ford will not dare to deny this," Castro added.

He invoked a clause in the antiskyjacking agreement allowing either side to renounce it by giving six months notice. He remarked that Cuba would make no effort to renew the pact, now set to expire on April 5, 1977, and noted that the agreement included a U.S. pledge to clamp down on anti-Castro Cuban exiles operating in American territory.

The highlight of Castro's address, however, was his announcement that through a double agent, the Cuban government had intercepted two messages from CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia, to a CIA agent in Havana.

On October 9, CIA headquarters directed its Havana agent: "Please report as soon as possible any information dealing with Fidel's attendance at the ceremony on the first anniversary of the independence of Angola on November 11. If affirmative, try to find out complete itinerary of Fidel's visits to other countries during the same trip."



FIDEL CASTRO (back turned) consoles family of CIA bombing victim. They told Fidel, "This is not only my son. I have three and they, too, are your sons."

As the crowd roared, Castro said:

"We have the code, the ciphers and all the evidence of the veracity of these communications. . .The Cuban government has been kept fully informed by an agent recruited by the CIA 10 years ago."

"Why does the CIA want the itinerary of the Cuban premier," Castro asked rhetorically, to the crowd's approval.

The CIA believed, Castro said, that the agent had been successful in planting an electronic bug in the office of Osmany Cinfuegos, Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Revolutionary Government's Council of Ministers and the man believed to coordinate Cuba's African policies.

He said he realized he had ended the usefulness of the long-standing double agent by making his activities public, but had done so because of the "value in revealing the conduct and activities of the CIA."

The other message from CIA headquarters was intercepted at an earlier time, Castro said, but he did not give a date. According to the premier, the message asked the agent a series of questions about terrorism against Cuban property and people.

PRIVATE REACTION

"What is the official (U.S.) and private reaction to bomb attacks against Cuban offices abroad?" Castro said, obviously enraged. "What are they going to do to avoid and prevent them? Will there be retaliations?

The eight earlier incidents Castro charged involved "CIA complicity" were:

•April 6 — Two fishing boats were attacked by private launches from Florida. One fisherman was killed.

•April 22 — Two persons were killed and there was heavy damage when a bomb exploded in the Cuban embassy in Lisbon.

•July 5 — A bomb damaged the Cuban mission to the United Nations.

•July 9 — A bomb exploded in a luggage cart just before the luggage was to be loaded onto a Cubana airliner.

•July 10 — A bomb exploded in the offices of British West Indies Airways of Barbados, which

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

FEDERAL JUDGE BLOCKS EXCLUSION OF BLACKS FROM JURIES

(Hartford, Conn.) - A United States District Court judge declared here last week that Black people were being systematically excluded from juries and began instituting methods to halt the practice.

After analyzing 72 trials in Connecticut, Judge John O. Newman noted that while, on the basis of the state's population, a Black juror or two should be involved in half the cases, in fact there was a Black juror in fewer than one out of five of the cases, reports the *New York Times.*

"No Black has the right to sit on any particular jury," Newman said. "But Blacks do have the right to participate equally with Whites in the process of conducting jury trials."

In particular, he criticized federal prosecutors for using their right to peremptory challenges too frequently in a conscious effort to exclude Blacks from serving on criminal juries.

In making his ruling, Judge Newman followed a precedent set by the U.S. Supreme Court in a case brought against the state of Alabama, in which the high court ruled that while there might be valid racially-based reasons for excluding a Black person from a particular jury, there was no valid reason for the consistent challenging of Black jurors.

ANOTHER WARNING

Newman's opinion goes further in that his ruling is not just another warning to prosecutors. It requires regular reporting from the U.S. attorney's office here on the number of Black persons impaneled for jury duty and the number removed by peremptory challenges. He requested a summary of the record every 90 days.

He warned that if the trend against Black jurors continued, practice of peremptory challenges and even certain convictions won by federal prosecutors could be challenged and overturned.

Judge Newman's decision came out of a case involving a Black woman accused of embezzling funds from a bank in Hamden, Connecticut. In drawing up the jury, defense lawyers finished their challenges and the government also finished with its seven peremptory challenges, in which an eligible juror is excused from a case without the necessity of giving a cause.

The defense objected that all four of the Black persons eligible for jury duty had been excused that way. Newman stopped the proceedings at that point to allow the defense to substantiate its contention that this had been the pattern for federal prosecutors in the state.

After this was substantiated by documentation provided by the public defender's office and law student Mario O. Conte, the prosecution challenges were disallowed. □



Black inmates are crowded into prisons throughout the country due to unjust convictions by all-white juries.





"A Sunday Kind Of Happening"

(Oakland, Calif.) - This week the Oakland Community Learning Center (OCLC) Community Forum featured the BOLD COLD MALE MODELS and the Urban Renewal Band in a "Sunday Kind of Happening" fashion show.

The OCLC auditorium was jampacked as the "Bold Cold Male Models" from Billy William's Men's Boutique revealed the latest in men's fashions with their high-stepping flair. The guest speaker for the afternoon was Brodus Parker of the Black Veterans' Association who outlined the organization's progressive 4-point program for former Black servicemen. The sensational Urban Renewal Band turned the show out with their own bold, cold sounds.

BPINS photos

PEOPLE'S PERSPECTIVE

Ray Seeks Review

(Washington, D.C.) - James Earl Ray, convicted killer of civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has asked the Supreme Court to review his case, insisting he was "set up to take the rap for a crime he didn't commit" and "framed by the FBI and local police." According to James H. Lesar, the Washington attorney representing Ray, "The charge is that those who did kill Dr. King are still at large, protected in part by the unwillingness of the courts to face these unpleasant facts."

C.I.A. Front

(Washington, D.C.) - Fletcher Prouty, former Pentagon liaison officer, and Michael E. Levine, former staff attorney at the Civil Aeronautics Board, (CAB), have charged that Air America, a CIA conglomerate involving more than 100 companies, illegally received many federal airlift and aircraft maintenance contracts. Prouty and Levine also said that applications by Southern Air Transport, another CIA front, were approved without investigation by CAB and its staff. The witnesses made their revelations at a hearing being conducted by South Dakota Senator James Abouresk for the Senate Small Business Subcommittee on monopoly business abuses.

"Hurricane" Trial Delay

(Jersey City, N.J.) - Jury selection in Rubin "Hurricane" Carter's and John Artis' retrial was delayed at least one day last week over a controversy about whether unemployed fulltime students should be available for jury duty. Defense attorney Jeffrey Fogel of Newark maintained that excluding students bars an important segment of the community.

Baker: Stop Watergate

(Washington, D.C.) - Samuel Dash, former chief counsel of the Senate Watergate Committee, says in his recently released book, *Chief Counsel: Inside the Ervin Committee,* that Senator Howard H. Baker, Jr., of Tennessee worked behind the scenes to curtail the Watergate investigation and undercut the testimony of John W. Dean III. Baker's actions took place after he met secretly with then President Nixon, Dash says.

BLACKS DEMAND JOBS IN HUGE SOUTHERN WATERWAY PROJECT

Minority People's Council Leads Fight In Rural Counties

(Epes, Ala.) — Under the leadership and direction of the Minority People's Council, Black people in the rural counties of Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi are demanding jobs and participation in the huge $1.5 billion Tennessee-Tombigbee project.

"The Black man will never amount to anything as long as he continues to sop his head in the White man's gravy," said an old farmer, Frank Cook. "The Black man must make his own gravy."

The waterway project is expected to bring an economic boom to this traditionally dirt-poor area of the South.

"The White folks never told us anything about this project," said Cook," and they expect that we ought to be satisfied with whatever they leave for us.

"But we got a new day now. They're building this thing with our taxes. We want equal shares in the benefits from the start."

The canal will open more than 200 miles of this deep south region to the Gulf of Mexico as well as connect it with the St. Lawrence Seaway (which stretches from the Atlantic to the Great Lakes).

The cost of land in the area has risen from $150 to $350 an acre in five years with some rural riverfront acreage costing up to $2,000 an acre.

Federal regulations say that major contractors in the area must show that they have "made an effort" to use some minority-group contractors. However, the Minority People's Council won a significant victory when the Department of Labor required an increase in minority employment on the project from 19 to 30 per cent by 1980.

Still, Blacks here emphasize that at its height the Department of Labor's ruling falls short of their own demands for 40 per cent Black employment, their actual representation in the region's population.

The Council, which was formed in 1974, was begun here by 350 Black farmers, social activists, and church groups. Its principal supporter, reports the *New York Times*, is the Federation of Southern Cooperatives Rural Training and Research Center, a nine-year-old Black-led group group whose constituency consists of 130,000 families organized into 120 cooperatives and credit unions.

Using the personnel, programs and tactics of the civil rights movement, the Council has established chapters in each of the 16 affected counties. Among the plans in the group's long-range program is a economic development program that would help Black and other minorities establish new businesses along the waterway.

In cooperation with the Atlanta-based Emergency Land Fund, the Council is encouraging Black people to add to the estimated 400,000 acres of land they own in these 16 counties.

Also, with the assistance of the federation and the Alabama Center for Higher Education, a group of eight Black colleges, the Council hopes to provide rural Blacks with the skills required by industry.

But, as of yet, the four-year-old waterway project has had a very

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE







JULIUS BROWN (center, top photo) talks with Black construction workers while activist farmer FRANK COOK (left, above) discusses politics with local resident. Right, map of waterway project.

Black Man Tortured In San Diego

(San Diego, Calif.) - A young mentally retarded Black man was kidnapped by several Whites and tortured for at least two days in what may have been a "Manson cult-type plot" to start a race war.

The victim, Donald Lee Jackson, was found standing by a downtown telephone booth Monday in critical condition. There were chemical burns over his body. He was blinded in one eye and doctors say he may lose the other.

Jackson was made sterile by torture and his body bore severe cuts and bruises.

Jackson, 23, said three or four men kidnapped him in a wooded area three days ago and held him in an apartment in north-central San Diego. He said hot ammonia was poured over his face and genitals.

He said that before the beatings an attacker said, "Well, it's time to get it on," and once referred to war between Blacks and Whites.

ALTERNATIVE TO PANAMA CANAL

Pentagon Plans Southwest Canal

(Washington, D.C.) — With the Panama Canal an increasing question mark, visionary minds in the Pentagon are contemplating an alternative sea-to-sea route that will strike most people as pure science fiction: an overland "canal" across the southwestern desert over which ships the size of a football field will soar on cushions of air.

The vision of a space-age prairie schooner ferrying troops and material from the Gulf of Mexico to the California coast is the brightest hope, say some strategists, for a secure transport corridor between the Atlantic and Pacific, Howard Dratch reports for *Pacific News Service*.

The scheme, while costly, would avoid the basic problems confronting the military in its search for an alternative to the Panama Canal in Central America: military vulnerability and political upheaval.

PROTOTYPES

The Pentagon has already contracted Bell Aerospace Textron to build prototypes of an air-cushioned amphibious assault landing craft. Col. Jack W. Dindinger, former chief of the Marine Corps' Plan and Studies Division, believes these will be the first step "towards the eventual development of 4,000 to 5,000 ton transoceanic SEVs (Surface Effect Vessels) that will travel at speeds in excess of 80 knots."

Dindinger explains that the vessels — also known as hovercraft — actually date back to 1916, when the Austrian Navy first built one.

After a long period of neglect the technology was revived in the 1950s. Today, a 177-ton British hovercraft ferries some eight million passengers a year across the English channel at speeds of 70 knots, and the Shah of Iran recently bought an entire fleet of British-made amphibious assault hydrofoils to beef up his Persian Gulf navy.

Bell Aerospace has built six 30-ton Voyager ACVs (air cushioned vehicles) — $1.3 million each — a much larger and costlier version of which may eventually be used in the Southwest overland canal plan.

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$100,000 CLASS ACTION BIAS SUIT FILED AGAINST CAPWELL'S AND UNION LOCAL

(Oakland, Calif.) - A $100,000 class-action suit has been filed against Capwell's Department Store and Local 28 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employee and Bartender's International Union for their racist treatment of minority employees and union members.

The suit was filed by Ms. Rosalie Jones, a former employee of Capwell's, who became disgusted with the racist treatment she and other minority employees were receiving. When she and others sought representation from their union Local 28, the issue was essentially whitewashed in meetings between the union and Capwell's.

In the suit, which was filed in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco, specific charges are listed against Capwell's and the union. Capwell's is charged with:

1) Discrimination in the recruitment, hiring and promotion of minority and women employees;

2) Maintaining arbitrary and unreasonable requirements for employment which have the effect of excluding qualified minority persons and women;

3) Discrimination in assignment and distribution of jobs and discharge of employees;

4) Causing obscene, abusive treatment of minority and female employees;

5) Failure to provide minority and female employees benefits on the same terms they are provided to White and male employees; and

6) Retaliation against employees who oppose these racist practices and failure and refusal to eliminate the effects of past acts of discrimination.

The charges against Local 28 are centered around the union's failure to represent Ms. Jones and other employees in a non-discriminatory manner, and "aiding, abetting, condoning, causing, permitting and encouraging" the racist practices, the suit says.

Capwell's has been under investigation by the Equal Employment Opportunities Corporation (EEOC) and the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Ms. Jones refused a $400 settlement from Capwell's and instead decided to sue. Constant retaliation and harassment, which included threats upon her life, caused her to quit earlier this year.

Also her union, on a national level, is presently the subject of a major Labor Department investigation to determine whether federal laws were violated in the union's doubling of expenditures and quadrupling of executive salaries since 1973.

Top officials of the union are known to have close ties with Sidney Korshak, a Los Angeles labor lawyer linked with organized crime.

The union represents more than 430,000 waitresses, busboys, dishwashers, bartenders and others in relatively low paying jobs. The salaries of its top officers have climbed from a total of $194,412 to $954,446 since 1973, while many of the union's "organizers" are said to have direct links to organized crime.

Also, the union is directly involved with the Teamsters Union in a disputed agreement in which the two labor organizations have agreed to pool funds for membership drives and jurisdictional peace, reports the *New York Times*. Justice Department officials suspect the two unions might merge at a later date.

Meanwhile, union members constantly have to struggle, says Ms. Jones, to get their rightful benefits.□



BPINS photo

Oakland's Capwell Department Store is the target of a $100,000 suit due to its discrimination against minority and female employees.



Shobek Hanged In Bahamas

(Nassau, Bahamas) - Black American MICHAIAH SHOBEK, his head covered by a Black hood, was hanged at dawn Tuesday morning, October 19, in the country's first execution in 15 years.

Juanita Spencer, mother of the 22-year-old Milwaukee handyman, had appealed for clemency on the grounds that her son was mentally unfit. Shobek had described the three White American tourists he allegedly confessed to killing in January, 1974, as "angels of Lucifer."

Ms. Spencer had made a last-minute appeal for help from President Ford but a Presidential aide flatly refused her.

Blacks Demand Jobs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

minimal effect on most of the poor Black families in the area, whose income average $3,500 a year. No Blacks have served on the local, state and regional boards that oversee the project. Julius Brown, a field representative for the Council's Recruitment and Training program, points out that during the past two years only 75 Black trainees and 10 Black apprentices have been placed with contractors.

One Black apprentice, 20-year-old Early Bryant, was just "hired out" at a starting salary of $5 an hour. Early is the only one in a family of nine with an income. Every day Brown drives him 12 miles to work "until he can get past a payday or two to qualify to buy a car. . .

"I guess I would walk if I had to," said Bryant. "I got to keep this job," he said. "There ain't nobody I know who ever made this kind of money."□



Child laborer (center) toils under hot sun on California farm.

FARMWORKERS ORGANIZE FIRST HOUSING CO-OP

(Salinas, Calif.) — Home is a clapboard shack where the front door hangs off the hinges and the plumbing leaks. The rooms are bare and battered, the windows are covered with taped cardboard.

For Sixto Torres and thousands of other farm workers, life has been a succession of such homes. The buildings sit in silent enclaves surrounded by huge flat squares of broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce or potatoes.

Tractors raise dust-dragging gang plows over the fields, planting, spraying and cultivating. Long aluminum pipes snake across the fields shooting water into the air and trucks filled with strawberries or sugar beets race along the straight narrow roads.

Until about two years ago, Sixto Torres was on the move from one job to the next up and down California, while his family stayed in a shack rented by a grower in one of the small valley towns totally devoted to agribusiness.

BETTER WAGES

Now, as unionization brings better wages and more steady employment, Torres and other farm workers have been able to think about establishing more permanent roots.

"We need a place to live," Torres says. "We want to be able to settle down and be part of the community — and we've found the place."

The place is called San Jerardo — the first farm worker cooperative housing project in California. For the past two years, however, Torres and a group of about 60 farm worker families have had to wage an uphill battle to begin work on their new homes.

Torres and a group of 30 Mexican-American families were evicted nearly three years ago from a trailer camp when the agribusiness they helped unionize sold out. They camped on the sidewalks of Salinas for nearly three weeks.

The county, unable to find space for them in the overcrowded migrant camps in Salinas, King City, Watsonville or Gilroy, finally allowed them to move into old Camp McCullum: 33 acres of dilapidated barracks, stubbly fields and pot-holed streets located five miles southeast of Salinas.

Camp McCullum — rechristened San Jerardo by the farm workers — had been built in 1942 to house workers for a quickly abandoned government farming project. Later it served as an internment camp for Italian and German prisoners of war.

Finally purchased by private growers to be used as a labor camp, McCullum housed up to 2,000 single Mexican men during the Bracero program from 1951-67.

But Torres and the other farm workers had a different idea. By September, 1974, 50 families had paid $400 each to join San Jerardo Inc. — and their $20,000 became a down payment for the deserted camp.

Hidden from view by 700 towering eucalyptus trees, the 31 buildings (each 120 ft. by 124 ft.) in the camp are planned as the base of a vibrant community of up to 60 families.

The concrete-slabbed, redwood-studded buildings will be refurbished into duplexes by the families after work and on weekends. The key ingredient needed — approval on a $1,128,000 FHA loan for the self-help; nonprofit corporation — is pending.

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Probe Deaths In Calif. Mental Hospitals

(Sacramento, Calif.) — State health officials announced here last week that they are assigning special investigators to each of the 11 state mental hospitals to examine all deaths since 1973 in a preliminary hunt for any that might have occurred under "suspicious circumstances."

The announcement followed disclosures that more than 100 deaths had occurred at Camarillo State Hospital in the past three years.

State Health Director Jerome Lackner said his department has hired 10 investigators to visit the hospitals and review causes of deaths of all patients in the past three years. In addition, every death occurring in a state mental hospital will now be referred to the local coroner, and the state will conduct its own investigation of each case, Lackner said.

The department has also announced its intentions to crack down on any intimidation of hospital employees, as has been recently reported at Metropolitan State Hospital in Norwalk.

In the past 12 to 18 months, department officials said, some hospital employees who said they knew of abuse of patients at the hospital reported receiving threatening phone calls and anonymous letters.

One employee's car had "KKK" scratched on it, and someone delivered a noose to a woman employee.□



BPINS photos



B.P.P. Supports "Yes On 14" Campaign

(Oakland, Calif.) - In a concrete expression of full support and solidarity with the United Farm Workers Union and the progressive "Yes on 14" campaign, volunteers from the Black Panther Party have been canvassing the Black communities here distributing leaflets and bumper stickers for the positive agricultural labor initiative on the November 2 election ballot.

BPINS photos

...And Bid Him Sing

By David G. Du Bois

Exciting Novel Examines Lives Of Black Americans In Egypt

The despondent reaction of the Black American community living in Cairo, Egypt, to the news of Malcolm X's assassination is continued in this week's excerpt from . . . And Bid Him Sing. BLACK PANTHER Editor-in-Chief David G. DuBois, author of this important novel, lived in Cairo for 12 years and is well acquainted with life in the Middle East.

PART 49

"Hi, you all," Hank said, suddenly standing over the table.

Suliman jumped up. "Hey! Baby! How ya doin'? Here, sit down. Ain't this some shit!" He'd pulled a chair over from a nearby table.

"Man, I'll never know how you teaching English at the American University and still soundin' like down-home folk with your hi-you-all shit," I said, smiling. Hank returned my smile with a puzzled look.

"Don't pay no 'tenshun to that nigger, brother," Suliman said. "He don't know where it's at. What you drinkin'?" Tonight he was ignoring Hank's bar reputation.

Looking at the two bottles of beer on the table, Hank said hesitantly, "Can I have a brandy? I was drinking brandy earlier."

CLAPPED TWICE

Suliman leaned back and clapped his hands twice: an unnecessary gesture, I thought, since our waiter was nowhere in sight, but would come to us the moment he saw Hank had joined us at the table. By now, I guessed every waiter in the place knew Hank had been crying and that I had come and got him and brought him to our table. But it was the owner who appeared at that moment, seeming to arrive in response to Suliman's summons.

"Please, don't get up," he said, as we all rose from our chairs. The headwaiter appeared from nowhere with a chair. We shook hands all round. Hank's was the last hand he took as he was sitting down. "Is everything all right, Mr. Hank?" he asked, still holding his hand and looking searchingly into Hank's face. "I just came in and Abdel Latif told me you are upset by something. Is there anything I can do?"

"Thank you, Mr. Momduah," Hank said. "We've just learned that Malcolm X has been killed in New York. It sorta knocked me out for a while. But I'm all right now, thanks."

"Yes," the owner said, looking around the table. "I heard this on the Arabic news just before I left the house. They said he was killed by his own people. Is that true?"

Suliman shot me a piercing look and said, "Yeah, he was shot by a Negro, and I bet that nigger ain't alive now to boast about it... or to collect his blood money."

"The radio said the police had to fight the crowds to get the man away from them."

"Where did they say it happened?" I asked.

"He was speaking at a meeting somewhere in New York, in Harlem I think, when a man in the audience suddenly jumped up and shot him. His wife was there. They said she became hysterical. But the police finally got the ones who did it." He leaned back and glanced around. The waiter, who had been hovering in the shadows a short distance from our table, immediately stepped over.

"What can we order for you, Mr. Momduah?" I asked.

"Nothing, thanks," he replied. "I've got a drink on the bar. But what are *you* drinking?" He glanced at the table.

"Suliman and I are drinking beer. We were just going to order a brandy for Hank."



Potter's quarter on buried ruins outside of Cairo.

The owner turned to the waiter and, in Arabic, told him to bring two beers and a brandy and to bring the check for the table to him when we'd finished. As he rose I said, getting up, "That isn't necessary, Mr. Momduah. But thanks."

"I know," he said, taking my hand and smiling. He shook hands with Suliman and Hank. "Stay as long as you like." He turned and headed across the dance floor toward the front of the room. He was short, fat and balding . . . and looked like Fats Waller.

"I'm going to tell Mohammed," Suliman said, still standing. Hank and I were sitting down. "The cat ought to know." He stepped up onto the platform. The man on vibes had just begun a solo. Mohammed and the others were watching him. I watched Mohammed's face. The expression did not change.

"What's going to happen to Malcolm's organization now, I wonder," Hank asked. His back was to the bandstand.

"Whatever there was will probably fall apart without him," I said. "He must have been having trouble all along. That's probably why we never heard from him." I offered Hank a cigarette and took one myself.

"Will we ever get our black asses together," Hank said, suddenly angry. "Damn! Even here in Cairo we couldn't. Niggers maneuvering to be the big dog, underminin' and shitting on each other." I lit our cigarettes and we sat silently smoking, each with his own thoughts.

The waiter arrived with the drinks. At the same time Suliman rejoined us.

"You know what the brother said?" He paused and glanced toward the bandstand. Mohammed's eyes were alternately closed or glued on the French horn player as they dueled with four-bar solos.

"The cat said, 'Man, that dude was doomed from the day he walked out on The Messenger. He *had* to die. You don't be no right arm of The Messenger,' he said, 'cross him, an' live.' He said Malcolm knew too much. The Messenger ain't playin' games, the cat said. He's got plans, big plans. He ain't about to have nobody fuckin' with his plans. The cat said Malcolm asked for it and got it." Suliman thought a moment. "He didn't sound like he was sorry." He hesitated. "Didn't sound like he was glad, either. Man, that's a *hard* brother."

TO BE CONTINUED

REVOLUTIONARY SUICIDE

By Huey P. Newton

"Trial"

This week, we begin the chapter "Trial" from Revolutionary Suicide, *written by Black Panther Party founder and leader Huey P. Newton. Huey begins his discussion of the first of his three trials revolving around the October 28, 1967, incident in which he was charged for the murder of one White Oakland policeman and assault on another one.*

PART 71

The morning my trial began, on July 15, 1968, in the Alameda County Courthouse, 5,000 demonstrators and about 450 Black Panthers gathered outside to show their support. Busloads of demonstrators came from out of town and joined the throng that crowded the streets and sidewalks outside the courthouse. Across the street from the building a formation of Black Panthers stood, lined up two deep, and stretching for a solid block.



Black Panther Party members and supporters demonstrate in July, 1968, "Free Huey" rally.

At the entrance to the building a unit of sisters from the Party chanted "Free Huey" and "Set Our Warrior Free." In front of them, on both sides of the courthouse door two Party members held aloft the blue Black Panther banner with *FREE HUEY* emblazoned on it. Black Panther security patrols with walkie-talkie radio sets ringed the courthouse.

The building was under heavy guard. At every entrance and patrolling every floor, armed deputies from the sheriff's office prowled up and down, and plainclothes men were assigned positions throughout the building. On that first day nearly fifty helmeted Oakland police stood inside the main entrance, and on the rooftop more cops with high-powered rifles stared down into the street.

The trial was conducted in the seventh-floor courtroom, a small depressing room kept ice cold throughout the trial. Security was so tight that the courtroom was carefully inspected before every session; everyone, even my parents, was searched before entering. The spectators' section had only about sixty seats: two rows were reserved for my family; the press had twenty-five or so seats; and the rest was for the general public. Every morning around dawn people began lining up outside for the few remaining places.

Presiding was Superior Court Judge Monroe Friedman, seventy-two years old, dour and humorless. Of course, no one admits prejudice, but Judge Friedman betrayed his in countless ways throughout the trial.

Clearly, from the beginning he thought I was guilty, and his sympathies lay with the prosecution. For one thing, he condescended to Black witnesses, speaking to them as if they were not capable of understanding the issues. It was obvious that he was totally unaware of the development of Black consciousness in the past decade. Even his tone of voice was revealing.

As the trial progressed, he constantly overruled my lawyer and sustained almost every objection of the prosecutor. Sometimes, when he did not like the way things were going, he looked over to the prosecutor's table as if inviting an objection, which he would then sustain.



1968 "Free Huey" rally at the Alameda County Courthouse. Holding flag in background is Fallen Comrade ROBERT LAWRENCE.

On interpretation, he was extremely rigid. Whenever a legal point could not be solved by legal mechanics, he would pass it off as unimportant, thereby leaving it for some higher court to deal with or for some political statement to be made through the legislature. Nothing was considered that was not in the book. He acknowledged that some laws were good and reluctantly followed those he disliked. Never for one moment did I consider him a fair arbitrator.

The most crucial aspect of the trial was the jury selection, and on that first trial day several hundred prospective jurors came to the courthouse. Charles Garry wanted a certain kind of juror, and he faced terrific odds in finding him. For one thing, everyone in the Oakland area had read or seen prejudicial accounts of the shooting. It was difficult to find anyone without an opinion about the case.

Then, too, we wanted some Black people. This was a vital issue and, as we learned through our investigations, a formidable hurdle to overcome.

Our inquiries revealed that the assistant district attorney and prosecutor in my trial, Lowell Jensen, had developed a system whereby Blacks would ostensibly be on jury panels called for duty but would always be eliminated before they were seated in an actual trial. Under Jensen's direction whenever a Black was removed from a prospective jury for cause, or through peremptory challenges, he was then returned to the jury panel and called in another trial. That way, it always appeared the Blacks were an active part of the system, even though it was unlikely a Black would ever serve on an actual jury.

TRIAL

When my trial began, the routine changed; other district attorneys in the area did not remove Blacks from their jury panels. Therefore, while my trial was in session there were juries in other courts with as many as six Blacks on them.

The Party instructed Garry to use all his peremptory challenges on prospective jurors. In a capital case in the state of California each side is allowed twenty, that is, both defense and prosecution can reject twenty jurors without giving a reason.

We gave Garry these instructions to demonstrate to the people that something is wrong with a trial system that defies the right of a defendant to be tried by a true cross-section of his community. We used all our peremptory challenges to emphasize this point. The prosecution did not exhaust all theirs, since it was not hard for them to find their kind of people. (Charles Garry found racism in almost every prospective juror he questioned.)

TO BE CONTINUED

Exclusive Interview With Z.I.P.A. Deputy Political Commissar

"THE TARGET OF OUR BULLET

The following is Part 1 of an exclusive interview with Dzinashe Machingura, deputy political commissar of the Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) People's Army (ZIPA) that was conducted by the Mozambique Information Agency (MIA) and released in Maputo, capital of Mozambique, in late September. ZIPA, which is based in Mozambique, is an organization of Black freedom fighters who are waging and winning the armed liberation struggle against the White racist regime of Rhodesian "Prime Minister" Ian Smith. We wish to thank Liberation News Service *for making this article available to us.*

PART 1

QUESTION: What is the Zimbabwe People's Army and how was it formed?

MACHINGURA: The Zimbabwe People's Army is a product of the voluntary merger of the military wing of the former ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) and the military wing of the former ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union). It was formed for the purpose of rescuing the Zimbabwe liberation struggle from the chaotic situation that had been created by the ANC (African National Council) leadership. It is an armed body of men, which was formed for the purpose of resuming the armed struggle, intensifying this armed struggle, and carrying it to its logical conclusion and finally establishing a just and popular socio-political order serving the interests of the people of Zimbabwe.

After the Lusaka Agreement in December, 1974, the four nationalist organizations fighting for the Liberation of Zimbabwe (ZANU, ZAPU, ANC, FROLIZI) came together under one umbrella, the ANC. But in the course of time, the leadership which was formed at that time through the Lusaka Agreement failed to organize itself in negotiating with the Smith regime and failed to set in motion machinery that would prosecute and realize the liberation of Zimbabwe through armed struggle.

After the fighters had realized the incompetence of the ANC leadership, they took it upon themselves to organize themselves, to reconstitute themselves into an army that would fight for the independence of the Zimbabwe people. The combatants from both former ZANU and former ZAPU agreed to form a joint military command that would lead the armed struggle. After this agreement they approached the Liberation Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the frontline (Zambia, Botswana, Tanzania, Angola, and Mozambique) heads of state, who appreciated and actively supported this joint military command.

The joint military command was formed on the understanding that the liberation of Zimbabwe could only be realized through an arduous armed struggle; secondly, on the understanding that the traditional political leadership of Zimbabwe had divided the people of Zimbabwe. And it became quite clear to us that if we were ever going to be able to prosecute a successful armed struggle we could not be a party to either of the two rival ANC factions, the Muzorewa faction or the Nkomo faction. We realized that the time for personality politics had long passed. It was this approach to politics which had divided the Zimbabwe people.

Question: Is ZIPA only an army, or does it have a political structure and leadership?

MACHINGURA: ZIPA is an army in the traditional sense of the word. But ZIPA is a unique and revolutionary army in the sense that it has a strategic role of transforming itself into a political movement. The ZIPA structure accommodates the shouldering of both the military and the political tasks of the revolution. We have, within the ZIPA structure, a political department exclusively charged with the responsibility of shouldering the political tasks that are normally shouldered by a revolutionary political organization.

REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES

In the history of revolutionary struggles we find examples that closely approximate our own situation. For example, in the course of their struggles, at one time or another, depending on the stage of their revolution, the political leadership was identical to the military leadership of the organizations fighting for freedom in China, in Cuba, in Korea, in Vietnam and in many other countries.

But we have to establish a formal political structure in order to give better political direction to the armed body that is now fighting inside Zimbabwe. And moves to do this are already well underway; moves to transform this organization into a revolutionary vanguard for the people's struggle.

QUESTION: What are the political goals of the struggle? For example, ZIPA is fighting for freedom but how do you define this freedom?



"We are not simply soldiers. We are political soldiers. . .Our political goal is to overthrow national oppression in Zimbabwe."



Zimbabwean people

MACHINGURA: We are not mercenaries. We are not simply soldiers. We are political soldiers. We are fighting for clearly defined political objectives. Our political goal is to overthrow national oppression in Zimbabwe, to put an end to the system of exploitation of man by man within Zimbabwe and to create a system that will serve the people of Zimbabwe.

When we say that ZIPA is fighting for freedom we mean that ZIPA is fighting for political freedom. By political freedom we mean that ZIPA is fighting for the political rights, the economic rights and the cultural rights of the Zimbabwean people; to put the Zimbabwean people in a position of authority and in a position of dominance in these spheres. Through realizing the people's democratic freedoms we release and set in motion the innovative and creative potential of the masses of Zimbabwe.

QUESTION: Has it been possible to establish liberated or semi-liberated zones in Zimbabwe?

MACHINGURA: We can say that at this stage we have managed to establish semi-liberated zones in the sense that, although the political and administrative infrastructure is not yet fully organized, the enemy has no control whatsoever in these areas. The masses are fully mobilized and organized, and are fully behind the armed struggle that is now being waged by the freedom fighters. We also feel that establishing liberated areas at this stage would be presenting the enemy with many targets vulnerable to air strikes.

QUESTION: How far has ZIPA gone in organizing a political infrastructure inside Zimbabwe to mobilize the people?

MACHINGURA: The masses are organized in units and they are democratically conducting their day-to-day business under the leadership

S IS EXPLOITATION"


...errillas discuss strategy.

of ZIPA. In each unit we have a section of dedicated people and we have also managed to establish mass organizations—for students, for children, for women, peasants and workers.

QUESTION: Does this political structure extend into the cities?

MACHINGURA: Our strategy has been that of fighting from the countryside, encircling the cities. As far as the rural areas are concerned, this structure is quite organized. But because of the existing conditions it has not been possible for these organizations to come out into the open in the cities. They are still clandestine. But they are there.

QUESTION: What about the possibilities for urban guerrilla struggle?

MACHINGURA: We do not conceive of urban guerrilla warfare as being divorced from the guerrilla war we are carrying out in the countryside. Urban guerrilla warfare can only play a supplementary role to the guerrilla operations organized in the countryside.

QUESTION: What does ZIPA see as the objective of the recent Rhodesian massacre of more than 670 Zimbabwean refugees at Nyazonia in Mozambique?

MACHINGURA: Principally, to internationalize the conflict. They hoped that the People's Republic of Mozambique would react rashly and invade Rhodesia, which would have created a pretext for Smith to call for support from his Western allies.

At the same time the attack was also aimed at creating a rift between FRELIMO and the Zimbabwean freedom fighters. It was meant to show that by supporting the Zimbabwean freedom fighters and accommodating Zimbabwean refugees, the Mozambican government is actually inviting attacks by the Smith regime. The idea was to force the Mozambican government to oppose the guerrillas by creating the idea that in an all-out war between Mozambique and Rhodesia, the young People's Republic would stand to lose.

QUESTION: The regime regularly claims that the freedom fighters have committed atrocities against the African population. What do you have to say about this?

MACHINGURA: The Smith regime brands us as terrorists, therefore they have to find something to justify this definition. But we are a people's army. We are not terrorists. Civilians are not the targets of our attacks.

However the Smith regime itself has organized the Selous Scouts to carry out atrocities against the people while masquerading as freedom fighters. This is widespread, but not so much in the semi-liberated zone, because we are in control there and the masses can clearly distinguish the true freedom fighters from the sham freedom fighters of the regime.

QUESTION: Many Zimbabweans are fighting in the Smith regime's army. Why, and what is ZIPA's attitude toward them? And are any of them deserting to join the guerrillas?

MACHINGURA: It is true that thousands of Zimbabweans are fighting in the racist regime's army. This is because of blackmail and conscription. The people are blackmailed into serving the Smith regime in search of social security. They want to guarantee the security of their families. They want to earn a livelihood and have no alternative, with all other employment opportunities denied them, but to serve within the racist army. It has also become clear of late that the Smith regime is actually conscripting Africans into its army by force.

ZIPA's attitude is that those who join Smith's army are misguided Zimbabweans. They need to be doubly liberated. First they need to be liberated from the national oppression. They are oppressed just like any other Zimbabwean. Secondly, they need to be liberated from the oppression they suffer within the racist army. They occupy an inferior position in the racist army. So we sympathize with them. Our struggle is to liberate all oppressed Zimbabweans in Zimbabwe today. Recently the number of deserters from the racist army joining the ZIPA ranks has risen to astronomical proportions. Hundreds and hundreds of them come to our ranks. Some of them with their weapons.

QUESTION: You said the Black soldiers in the Rhodesian racist army are discriminated against. In what way?

MACHINGURA: About a couple of months ago the Smith regime published the report of a commission of inquiry into racial discrimination. This revealed quite candidly that the African soldiers in Smith's army occupy a very inferior postion in the sense that up to now none of them has risen to the position of an officer; all of them are either noncommissioned officers or simply privates. So this in itself is tantamount to exploitation.

In addition, there is racial discrimination within the army itself. Some facilities that are available to Whites are not available to African soldiers. And also European private soldiers do not show respect to their seniors who are Africans.

In the Rhodesian racist army today, the most dangerous tasks are assigned to the Africans and, in most cases, the African soldiers are used as minesweepers and as reconnaissance personnel for the racist army. But, of course, the racist army also mistrusts the African soldiers very much. They doubt their loyalty. As such they cannot give them freedom of action to organize action against the guerrillas. They can only work under the supervision of their White supervisors.

QUESTION: How does ZIPA define the enemy? What is the target of the freedom fighters' bullets?

MACHINGURA: A clear understanding of the character of our society, the nature of our revolution and the fundamental contradiction in our society is essential to the definition of the enemy. Our society is essentially a colonial society and as such we have to wage a national democratic revolution to overthrow national oppression. This national democratic revolution will serve to reconcile the principal contradiction in Zimbabwe which is characterized by the domination and oppression of the vast majority of the Zimbabwean people by a small, minority, racist, reactionary clique of Whites.

From this we can say that all those who are opposed to the liberation and the independence of the Zimbabwean people are our enemies. These comprise the Smith regime, and the imperialist powers that back it, puppet Africans serving the Smith regime, and all those who are opposed to the independence of the Zimbabwean people. The target of the freedom fighters' bullets is the system of exploitation and the capitalist enterprises and armed personnel which serve to perpetuate it.

TO BE CONTINUED


Zimbabwe People's Army (ZIPA) soldiers march to fight against Ian Smith regime of Rhodesia.

THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY PROGRAM

MARCH 29, 1972 PLATFORM

WHAT WE WANT, WHAT WE BELIEVE

1. WE WANT FREEDOM. WE WANT POWER TO DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

We believe that Black and oppressed people will not be free until we are able to determine our destinies in our own communities ourselves, by fully controlling all the institutions which exist in our communities.

2. WE WANT FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR PEOPLE.

We believe that the federal government is responsible and obligated to give every person employment or a guaranteed income. We believe that if the American businessmen will not give full employment, then the technology and means of production should be taken from the businessmen and placed in the community so that the people of the community can organize and employ all of its people and give a high standard of living.

3. WE WANT AN END TO THE ROBBERY BY THE CAPITALIST OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

We believe that this racist government has robbed us and now we are demanding the overdue debt of forty acres and two mules. Forty acres and two mules were promised 100 years ago as restitution for slave labor and mass murder of Black people. We will accept the payment in currency which will be distributed to our many communities. The American racist has taken part in the slaughter of over fifty million Black people. Therefore, we feel this is a modest demand that we make.

4. WE WANT DECENT HOUSING, FIT FOR THE SHELTER OF HUMAN BEINGS.

We believe that if the landlords will not give decent housing to our Black and oppressed communities, then the housing and the land should be made into cooperatives so that the people in our communities, with government aid, can build and make decent housing for the people.

5. WE WANT EDUCATION FOR OUR PEOPLE THAT EXPOSES THE TRUE NATURE OF THIS DECADENT AMERICAN SOCIETY. WE WANT EDUCATION THAT TEACHES US OUR TRUE HISTORY AND OUR ROLE IN THE PRESENT-DAY SOCIETY.

We believe in an educational system that will give to our people a knowledge of self. If you do not have knowledge of yourself and your position in the society and the world, then you will have little chance to know anything else.

6. WE WANT COMPLETELY FREE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL BLACK AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE.

We believe that the government must provide, free of charge, for the people, health facilities which will not only treat our illnesses, most of which have come about as a result of our oppression, but which will also develop preventative medical programs to guarantee our future survival. We believe that mass health education and research programs must be developed to give all Black and oppressed people access to advanced scientific and medical information, so we may provide ourselves with proper medical attention and care.

7. WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO POLICE BRUTALITY AND MURDER OF BLACK PEOPLE, OTHER PEOPLE OF COLOR, ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE INSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

We believe that the racist and fascist government of the United States uses its domestic enforcement agencies to carry out its program of oppression against Black people, other people of color and poor people inside the United States. We believe it is our right, therefore, to defend ourselves against such armed forces and that all Black and oppressed people should be armed for self-defense of our homes and communities against these fascist police forces.

8. WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO ALL WARS OF AGGRESSION.

We believe that the various conflicts which exist around the world stem directly from the aggressive desires of the U.S. ruling circle and government to force its domination upon the oppressed people of the world. We believe that if the U.S. government or its lackeys do not cease these aggressive wars that it is the right of the people to defend themselves by any means necessary against their aggressors.

9. WE WANT FREEDOM FOR ALL BLACK AND POOR OPPRESSED PEOPLE NOW HELD IN U.S. FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, CITY AND MILITARY PRISONS AND JAILS. WE WANT TRIALS BY A JURY OF PEERS FOR ALL PERSONS CHARGED WITH SO-CALLED CRIMES UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS COUNTRY.

We believe that the many Black and poor oppressed people now held in U.S. prisons and jails have not received fair and impartial trials under a racist and fascist judicial system and should be free from incarceration. We believe in the ultimate elimination of all wretched, inhuman penal insitutions, because the masses of men and women imprisoned inside the United States or by the U.S. military are the victims of oppressive conditions which are the real cause of their imprisonment. We believe that when persons are brought to trial that they must be guaranteed, by the United States, juries of their peers, attorneys of their choice and freedom from imprisonment while awaiting trials.

10. WE WANT LAND, BREAD, HOUSING, EDUCATION, CLOTHING, JUSTICE, PEACE AND PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CONTROL OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY.

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.

WALL POSTERS, RALLIES

Countrywide Campaign Begins To Discredit Radical Chinese Leadership

(Peking, People's Republic of China) - Huge crowds reportedly demonstrated in Shanghai last Saturday carrying effigies of Chiang Ching, Mao Tse-tung's widow, and denouncing the "antiparty plot group" in what appears to mark a swift countrywide campaign to discredit the leading four leftists arrested in an alleged plot to assassinate new Communist Party Central Committee Chairman Hua Kou-feng.

Prior to the demonstrations wall posters appeared both in Shanghai and here in Peking attacking the "Shanghai four."

Various sources have reported that the radical leadership — in addition to Ching, Chang Chun-chiao, senior deputy Prime Minister and head of the general political department of the army, Wang Hung-wen, the youthful Vice Premier, and Yao Wen-yung, director of China's central media — were arrested on October 7, after the party Central Committee selected Hua as the new chairman. While not denying the reports, official Chinese spokespersons offer only "no comment."

"SHANGHAI MAFIA"

Nicknamed the "Shanghai Mafia" by the Western press, the radicals rose to prominence during the great Cultural Revolution of the late 1960s. Denouncing bureaucrats and conservatives as following the "capitalist road," the leftists had most recently raised the cries of ideological struggle which led Mao to oust moderate vice premier Teng Hsiao-ping earlier this year.

An example of the difference between the two groups can be found in the official Chinese press statement on last week's opening of the autumn Canton trade fair: "The Chinese people wish to have friendly cooperation with people of all countries and to resume and expand international trade in order to develop production and economic prosperity."

The radical leadership, on the other hand, argued that over

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ULTIMATE GOAL TO CRUSH WHITE ARMY

ZIMBABWE FREEDOM FIGHTERS PLAN ARMED TAKEOVER

(London, England) — Zimbabwe (Rhodesian) liberation forces are planning an armed takeover of the White minority government and will refuse to participate in any interim government until they crush the White Rhodesian army, according to an article published last week in the *London Sunday Times.*

The *Times* reported that it had obtained tape recordings of a secret meeting held in Lusaka, Zambia, three days after Rhodesian "Prime Minister" Ian Smith announced on September 27 his acceptance of U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's "package plan" for Black majority rule in Zimbabwe.

TAPE RECORDINGS

The tape recordings, according to the *Times,* reveal a "blueprint for an armed takeover of Zimbabwe which runs counter to the Anglo-American plans for an agreed settlement." The newspaper quotes Robert Mugabe, political commander of the Zimbabwe People's Army (ZIPA) and secretary-general of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), as saying:

"Even if the proposals gave 100 per cent Black membership of Parliament, we would not accept it unless there was a total destruction of Smith's army and immediate replacement by ZANU forces. The quest is not to go to a conference and argue which powers each will have. What we want is more time to fight and then the Smith government will acknowledge that the time has come to give in on these proposals."

Zimbabwean leaders did not immediately respond to the *Times'* article, but its revelations are in keeping with the position of ZIPA—the Zimbabwean freedom fighters, largely based in Mozambique, who are waging the armed struggle against the Smith regime — and ZANU. When Smith first announced the terms of the Kissinger plan, ZIPA denounced the agreement, along with the presidents of the five frontline states in southern Africa — Mozambique, Angola, Tanzania, Botswana and Zambia.

Zimbabwean liberation forces and their supporters are seeking immediate Black majority rule and are opposed to the creation of any interim government, even one dominated by Blacks. Black leaders in the breakaway British colony have long maintained that true freedom can only be won through armed struggle — not at the negotiating table.

Meanwhile, the Geneva conference to discuss the make-up of a Black-ruled Zimbabwean government, has been postponed until October 28 at the request of the country's Black leaders. Joshua Nkomo, head of the internal wing of the African National Council (ANC), made the announcement on October 16 in Lusaka. Great Britain is the convener of the conference.

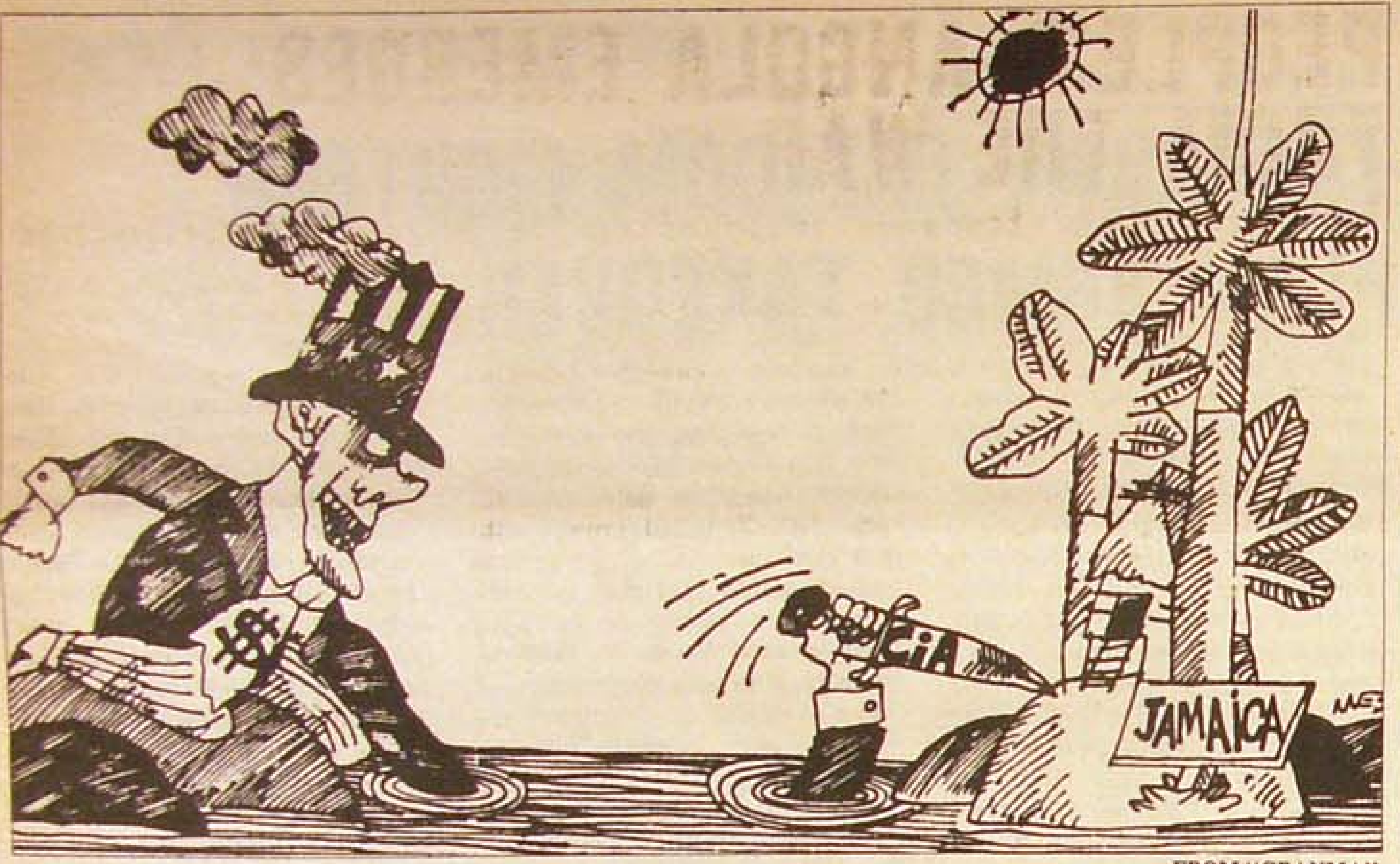
British Foreign Office officials said that Zimbabwean leaders had requested the delay in the formal opening of the conference — originally scheduled for October 25 — in order to make decisions on the composition of their delegation, the *New York Times* reports. One issue to be decided is the status of Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole, the deposed leader of ZANU. His leadership position is disputed by many Black nationalist leaders.

Earlier in the week, Britain announced that Mugabe, Nkomo

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Tanzanian students protest Henry Kissinger's recent visit to southern Africa. Zimbabwean guerrillas have denounced Kissinger's "package plan" and are intensifying the armed struggle.



FROM "GRANMA"

C.I.A. EXPOSED IN JAMAICA

(New York, N.Y.) - Former CIA agent Phillip Agee has announced the names of nine CIA personnel and two embassy officials who he says are now working out of the U.S. embassy in Jamaica to destabilize that government because of its friendly relations with Cuba and its threat to U.S. corporations, *Liberation News Service* reports.

"This is exactly the way I worked in Ecuador, Uruguay and Mexico," Agee told Jamaican reporters at a noon press conference in Kingston, Jamaica, on September 16. "I am certain from my own experience that the CIA is at work here."

Agee, author of *Inside the Company: A CIA Diary*, worked for the CIA from 1956 to 1969. In the last two years he has released the names, addresses and histories of CIA operatives in Italy, France, England and South Africa.

"One cannot emphasize enough," said Agee, "that to defeat secret intervention by the CIA, a continuous effort is needed to identify them, expose them and force them out in shame and disgrace."

Agee presented reporters a list of five operations officers, two clerical support employees and two communications officers who all work for the CIA. In addition, he named five CIA operations officers who served until recently in Jamaica and who "might well return"; one drug enforcement agency officer "because this agency is used as cover by the CIA"; and one State Department officer — the "chief political officer and the most likely of people here who would be integrated into Kingston CIA operations."

Among the CIA operatives named by Agee were:

Norman Descoteaux: Diplomatic title — Attache; CIA role — Chief of Station.

Joel Beyer: Diplomatic title — Second Secretary and Consul; CIA role — Deputy Chief of Station.

Daniel Calloway: Diplomatic title — Consumer Officer; CIA role — Operation officer.

Jersey Hauptmamn: Diplomatic title — 3rd Secretary and Vice Consul; CIA role — Operations Officer.

James W. Holt: Diplomatic title — Assistant Attache; CIA role — undercover as U.S. Embassy Security Officer.

Agee also mentioned Robert G. Houdek, who Agee says may not be a CIA agent, but is likely to take over CIA operations if the exposed operatives leave. Agee had personal knowledge of Houdek, who was expelled from Sierra Leone in 1974 for interfering in internal affairs.

Agee's methods for determining who works for the Agency are simple. He compares published lists of local embassy personnel with State Department registries. He checks for a diplomat's past employment and looks for the special "R" or reserve rating, found next to the names of foreign service officers.

Agee's information documents what Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley has charged for some time. In a May 12 speech, Manley described the destabilization taking place as including "incredible and unexplained strikes, the upsurge of unexpected violence, organized letters to the press, international orchestrated articles for newspaper publication, economic squeezes, and the slowing down and entangling of aid."

The CIA's stepped up activities in Jamaica can be traced to several events. People's National Party (PNP) candidate Manley was elected in 1972 with the majority support of 53 per cent of Jamaicans. Since that time he has, among other things, built ties with Cuba and the progressive government of Guyana. This, according to Shepherd Bliss, a frequent writer on Latin

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AFRICA IN FOCUS

Namibia

Sweden last week called for a ban on future investments in Namibia (South West Africa) because of South Africa's (Azania's) "brutal oppression" of the Black population of the territory. Speaking before the United Nations General Assembly, Swedish Foreign Minister Karin Soder urged the Security Council to impose a mandatory arms embargo against the South African government as a first step and then to enact other economic sanctions against the White minority regime, including a ban on new investments.

Guinea—Bissau

A massive rally was held on September 25 in Bissau, People's Republic of Guinea-Bis sau, to celebrate the third anniversary of the country's liberation from Portugal. Luis Cabral, president of the Council of State; Francisco Mendes, principal commissioner of the Council of Commissioners of State; Joao Bernardo Vieira, president of the National People's Assembly; and other government ministers were among those attending the rally, *Hsinhua* news agency reports. Large, colorful placards carried by enthusiastic Guinea-Bissauans bore such words as "Give Priority To Agriculture" and "Study, Work, Struggle."

Tanzania

The Port of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, has significantly increased the volume of goods handled from neighboring countries since the beginning of the year. The Tanzanian press reports that in August over 238,000 tons of cargo passed through the Port, the highest record so far this year.

United Nations

The United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid recently issued a report condemning the South African government for its attacks against Azanians (Black South Africans). The Committee's report accused the government of "Prime Minister" John Vorster with conducting a massive witch hunt designed to destroy all forms of opposition to and criticism of the racist regime.

PEOPLE'S ANGOLA EMERGES FROM THE WAR

Battles To Gain Economic Independence In Socialist Reconstruction

(Luanda, People's Republic of Angola) — What is at hand now for the people of Angola now that the war is over and the MPLA is embarking on the reconstruction of a new Angola, independent and free?

Angola is undergoing a revolution. Having fought two wars to gain political independence, its leaders know that it must now fight an even longer battle to gain economic independence. Five months ago, in a speech during May Day celebrations, Prime Minister Lopo de Nascimento declared that socialism was the only way to consolidate Angola's national independence and to establish a truly just government.

"Only when Angola is the owner of its own wealth will it be fully independent," Nascimento said. "This means that the oil, iron, diamonds, the great factories and plantations should be owned collectively by all the Angolan people. To exchange the Portuguese colonialists or the American owners for Angolans would only be to 'Angolanize' the exploitation of the people."

Nascimento cited the examples of African countries that reached political independence in the 1960s and opted for the capitalist mode, which he said, "is euphemistically called 'growth without development.' " The prime minister said that life in these countries was characterized by a greater dependence on Western powers, a greater exploitation of natural resources, and the successive deepening of social inequalities.





Scenes from People's Angola: Woman in marketplace (above, left); young girl (above, right); and revolutionary women soldiers (bottom).

On the first of May the government announced its first series of nationalizations. First priority is the massive number of plantations and ranches abandoned by the hundreds of thousands of Portuguese who fled to South Africa or Portugal during the war. Without the confiscation of abandoned property in key areas of the economy, especially agricultural exports like coffee, sugar and cotton, it would be impossible to begin the reconstruction of the economy.

Angola is the fourth largest coffee producer in the world, but the chaotic events of Angola's decolonization left the coffee harvest uncollected for almost two years. Now the country faces a serious threat to its second largest foreign currency source.

Coffee experts say that without a full coffee harvest this year new coffee cannot be planted for next year. Failure to regularize the coffee industry once again could have a serious effect on Angola's economy.



Facing similar problems in its sugar industry, the new Angolan government established emergency control commissions for each vital national industry. With President Neto and other Angolan leaders taking their turn in the fields, MPLA is now mobilizing the population to participate in gathering the coffee and cutting the cane.

In the areas of the economy that are controlled by foreign corporations other than Portuguese, the MPLA has been more cautious. No non-Portuguese foreign holdings have yet been nationalized.

"As to petroleum, we have not carried out any nationalizations," Carlos Rocha, the Minister of Planning and Economic Coordi-

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WINSTON NTSHONA (left), and JOHN KANI.

Azanian Actors To Be Tried For Anti-"Transkei" Remarks

(Johannesburg, South Africa) — Two award-winning Azanian (South African) actors will be tried by the government of the Transkei "homeland" for their critical remarks of the soon-to-be "independent" tribal state made during the recent performance of a play, Transkei "Chief Minister" Kaiser Mantanzima announced last week.

John Kani and Winston Ntshona shared New York's Antoinette Perry (Tony) Award for best actor of the 1974-75 theatrical season for their performances in *Sizwe Banzi Is Dead* and *The Island.* The two men were arrested on October 8 in Butterworth, Transkei, following a performance of *Sizwe Banzi.* It was not clear on what charges they will be tried.

Before moving to Butterworth, the play had run for two nights before packed houses in Umtata, capital of the "homeland," the *New York Times* reports.

Sizwe Banzi Is Dead, written by Athol Fugard, one of South Africa's best known White playwrights, concerns the country's hated pass laws. The story revolves around two Azanians, one of whom lacks a pass needed to live in an urban area. The other man provides him with the pass of a dead man, Sizwe Banzi, whose personality the imposter adopts in order to escape detection.

The play is written so that the two main characters are free to improvise the dialogue. Kani's and Ntshona's improvisations

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Kissinger Copper Bribe Revealed

(Washington, D.C.) — U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has promised the copper-producing countries of Zambia and Zaire that, in exchange for their support of his southern Africa "shuttle diplomacy," he will try to end the slump in world copper prices, the *New York Times* and the *Journal of Commerce* recently reported. Zambia and Zaire are two of the world's major copper producers and have experienced severe economic depressions as the result of the drastic two-year decline in international copper prices.

A leading British metals dealer told the *Times* that, "A rise in copper prices is essential to . . .Kissinger's peace efforts in southern Africa." The chief U.S. diplomat has encouraged the General Services Administration (GSA) to engineer a rise in world copper prices by stockpiling copper in the U.S. Earlier this month the GSA announced a plan to rebuild stockpiles of raw materials, including copper, and the government agency is expected to begin copper purchases in 1977.

A copper industry expert who is advising the Ford administration on the stockpiling plan told the *Times* in July that Kissinger believes the copper stockpiling will prevent Zambia and Zaire, as well as Chile and Peru, from going bankrupt.

O.C.S. Science Exhibit

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Corporation.

After receiving instruction in the basic concepts of electricity, chemistry, hydraulics, air pressure and mechanics that they needed to construct the project, the three 10-year-olds took just six days to complete the three and one-half foot simulated plant. Their instructor, James Abron, emphasized to conference participants that Sean, Alisha and James had done all the work themselves.



BPINS photo

OCS students (left to right) ALISHA KEYES, SEAN CARTER and JAMES WILSON demonstrate their creative science project.

Beginning with a solution of water, motor oil, ink, perfume, dirt and sand, the Level 7 students explained how they produced clear, colorless, tasteless drinking water. The three stages of their plant included (1) a settling or sedimentaton tank in which the solution was placed; (2) a mixing and pumping stage; and (3) a trickling filter tank. This part of the project took the longest to complete as the three youth had to conduct a number of experiments in order to come up with the right combination of graphite (carbon), crushed rocks, cotton and oxidizer (cleansing agent commonly found in household bleaches) to produce pure drinking water.



BPINS photo

ERICKA HUGGINS discusses the innovative science program of the OCS.

The engineers and scientists were visibly impressed with the project and the children's ability to intelligently answer technical questions they were asked concerning the sewage treatment plant. Those who doubted that the water was drinkable had their doubts removed when they tasted the water.

The OCS believes that "there is nothing strange" or "mystical" about technological fields such as mathematics and science. Last week's exhibition at the Black Engineers and Scientists' meeting demonstrated that the School is successfully instilling this belief in its students.□

WORLD SCOPE

Japan

The U.S. has apologized to Japan for the poor taste of a Texas air show that re-enacted the atomic bombing of Hiroshima with a simulated mushroom cloud and the pilot of the infamous "Enola Gay," the B-29 Stratofortress which dropped the first atomic bomb, at the controls of a B-29. U.S. Embassy First Secretary Nicholas Platt, when reminded of "the sensitivity of the Japanese people to nuclear weapons," expressed the Embassy's" regret for any offense that may have been caused to Japanese sensitivities."

Peru

Peruvian President Morales Bermudez, in a recent speech, reaffirmed that Peru "will wage a tireless struggle together with other Third World and non-aligned countries for the establishment of a more rational new international economic order." Bermudez also said that developing countries must "create their own models of development" and not follow the road of the developed, industrialized countries.

Philippines

A commission on elections said that early returns from last week's nationwide referendum showed 93 per cent of the 2,066,590 ballots cast "favored" the continuation of martial-law rules under dictatorial President Ferdinand E. Marcos. Also there was supposedly "overwhelming support" for a package of nine amendments proposed by Marcos that will give him legislative power as long as he wants it. Critics of Marcos' dictatorial regime are openly skeptical of the results.

Israel

The nominee for governor of the State Bank of Israel was arrested this week for investigation of accusations that he participated in corrupt land deals. The nominee, Asher Yadlin, was arrested after police searched his home for financial records. Police also arrested Mardechai Ellison, a former official in a development company owned by Histadrut, the Israeli labor federation.



Niggertown

In Nigger Town
In Nigger Town
The streets are made of mud
Infested with rats and bats and bugs
In Nigger Town
In Nigger Town
The streets are made of brick
Ask any swinging dick that happens past
Why won't he get off his big, fat, black, funky ass
A grumbling snitch
A shot of shit for a dope fiend bitch
Hid behind the cemetery in the fog
A leg, a hog, a short dog of Elderberry
Misery spreads and brothers dead
Cause Charlie's runnin' in the red

In Nigger Town one day
Four little children kneeled to pray
— In Jesus' name
Boom!
Four little children gone
And Jesus never came
Now you say, you're tired of all this shit
You suck-a-pawed son-of-a-bitch
If you was, you'd ball your mitt
Do something nigger if you only spit!
Tell the truth snaggle-tooth
I know you're scared you mother goose

With niggers in Nigger Town
I'm fed up to my neck
About a drunk, a thief, a punk
I wouldn't give a husky heck
In Nigger Town.

Alprentice "Bunchy" Carter

"THE OTHER FRANCISCO": MYTH AND REALITY OF CUBAN SLAVE TRADE

(San Francisco, Calif.) - Among the 14 films featured at the Festival of New Cuban Cinema, held here October 6-12 at the Roxie Theater under the joint sponsorship of Tricontinental Film Center and KPFA Radio, both in Berkeley, was *The Other Francisco*. Produced by the Cuban Film Institute, the film is a compelling drama depicting slavery in 19th century Cuba.



Slaves cut sugar canes in scene from the Cuban film, The Other Francisco *(second from left).*

Francisco is the central character of an actual novel written in the first half of the 19th century by Anselmo Suarez Romero. A Spaniard, Romero was a wealthy plantation owner in Cuba; his purpose in writing *Francisco* was to arouse popular opinion against slavery to the degree that Spain would abolish slavery in its Cuban colony. His opposition to slavery, however, was not based on humanitarianism, as we learn as the film unfolds.

FIRST SEGMENT

The Other Francisco is told in two parts. In the first segment, Cuban slavery is viewed from the idealistic, distorted viewpoint of Romero, who, as a slaveowner, tried to justify the institution on the grounds that Spain — in partnership with the Catholic Church — was Christianizing the "heathen" slaves and "saving" them from a life of hell.

Francisco was kidnapped from Africa at age 10 and brought to Cuba. The mistress of the plantation where he was sold took a personal interest in him, educated him and allowed him to grow up alongside her son.

Up until the time he fell in love with the mistress' maid, Dorothea — who is a mulatto — Francisco was a "house slave." But his deep love for Dorothea proves to be Francisco's undoing. After the mistress denies the two lovers permission to marry, Dorothea becomes pregnant. Enraged, the young slavemaster, who has long had lustful designs on Dorothea, sets out to destroy Francisco.

DRUNKEN OVERSEER

Conspiring with the plantation's drunken, racist slave overseer, the slavemaster frames Francisco for every thing that goes wrong on the plantation. Suddenly removed from the "big house," Francisco — portrayed by Romero as a passive, non-resistant soul — is subjected to the severe beatings and other punishments commonly inflicted on "field slaves."

The mistress finally pardons Francisco for his alleged "wrong-doings" and grants him and Dorothea permission to marry. However, Dorothea tearfully tells Francisco that she was forced to go to bed with the slavemaster, who threatened to kill Francisco if she would not submit. Shamed at what she has done, Dorothea tells Francisco that there is no future for them. Grief-stricken, Francisco hangs himself.

This is Romero's story. However, as the second part of the film begins, we learn the true motive of Spain's desire to end the slave trade. With the onset of the Industrial Revolution in Europe in the first quarter of the 19th century, machines were developed that could do plantation work much more quickly and efficiently than slaves. Spain's desire to expand imperialism in its Western Hemisphere colonies led to the eventual abolition of slavery in Cuba; the institution was simply no longer profitable.

Life for a slave in 19th century Cuba was so oppressive and violent that a broken love affair, such as that between Francisco and Dorothea, was probably rarely ever a strong enough motive for a slave to commit suicide. Slaves were beaten regularly, even pregnant women.

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People's Angola Emerges From War

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nation told *Tempo*, a Mozambican weekly magazine. Cabinda Gulf Oil alone pays the Angolan government half a billion dollars in royalties. (A spokesperson for Gulf in Pittsburgh announced in August that its petroleum operation in Cabinda had regained its normal rhythm after the interruptions caused by the war last year. The announcement stated that Gulf was pumping 123,000 barrels a day, compared with 140,000 at the beginning of the war.)

Rocha said that Angola is renegotiating the agreements Gulf had established with the previous Portuguese administration and expects to conclude new agreements some time this fall. "We have already requested to be admitted to OPEC," he said, "and we expect that we will be accepted. We want to align with the politics of OPEC as to the price of oil, supply networks, establishment of taxes on the multinational oil companies, etc."

The bushy-bearded Minister also said that the MPLA is negotiating new agreements with Diamang, the largely British and South African controlled diamond company in Angola, in order to reorganize the production of diamonds in northeastern Luanda province.

As for the Cunene Dam project near the Namibian border, Rocha said that although the Portuguese had displayed maps that showed a water supply project — a result of the dam's construction — that would irrigate an arid area of southern Angola, the project was a creation of the South Africans to benefit South Africa. "The project was really unfavorable to Angola, and even some Portuguese here opposed it. With the unfolding of the war against the Portuguese, however, their dependence on South Africa constantly increased, and in this way plans for both Cabora Bassa and Cunene were born."

In contrast to Mozambique's gigantic single hydroelectric complex at Cabora Bassa, Cunene is a scheme of several dams which affects not only the Cunene River, but also many of its tributaries. It is a massive project, occupying a very large land area. "Portugal was so dependent on South Africa during the colonial war that it just wasn't able to oppose such a scheme. Consequently we must totally revise the plans for Cunene."

While MPLA is renegotiating existing agreements with these foreign corporations, the role of the Angolan workers whose labor maintains production is changing, although relationships between the foreign managements and the newly formed Workers' Commissions are still cloudy.

The Benguela Railway is still owned by Tanganyika Concessions, and in Lobito, its western terminus, some of the Portuguese directors have continued managing the railroad. But in the railroad yard in Huambo, one of the largest industrial sites in all of Angola, not one foreign manager remains. Here, where everything from welding and carpentry to chrome-plating is functioning, and where steel is actually forged into all of the pieces needed to construct boxcars, passenger cars, and even locomotives, everything is controlled by the workers. A Workers' Commission whose members have been chosen by the workers themselves now must confront all of the problems of maintaining the rolling stock of the 838 mile line.



Angolan Provincial Commissioner ARMANDO DEMBO (finger raised) speaks at village meeting.

Members of the Workers Commission here who had worked for the railroad in Huambo for decades opposed Savimbi when UNITA took control of Huambo. They suffered for it. One member who worked for the railway for 41 years told me that he had been one of only 28 survivors of a group of 150 MPLA supporters that UNITA had imprisoned last year. Now the workers in every shop in the vast railroad yard can respond with raised fists to my greetings during my three-hour visit.

Angola has emerged from almost five centuries of colonialism and a viciously destructive war and now faces massive problems. In Angola, everyone talks about the problems all the time. "Much is said of our lack of transportation, the destruction of our bridges, and of our telephone and telegraph networks, of the disorganization of our production and of the indiscipline in our work," Rocha said in June.

"But our most pressing difficulty is, without a doubt, the failure of the Portuguese to teach us how to run things, the failure to teach Angolans to run the enterprises of Angola."

Now MPLA must organize and mobilize the Angolan people to gain control of the riches of Angola. That is an essential element of the revolution in motion: a people and its government organizing to take control of their own society and their own lives.

(We thank *Liberation News Service* reporter Mike Shuster for this firsthand information.)□





Angolan people's militia (above photos). The people of Angola remain vigilant as they attempt to rebuild their war-ravished country. Prime Minister Lopo de Nascimento stated, "Only when Angola is the owner of its own wealth will it be fully independent."

Zimbabwean Freedom Fighters

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and Biship Abel Muzorewa, head of the external wing of the ANC, had been invited to attend the Geneva talks along with Smith. On October 9, Mugabe and Nkomo, former rivals, announced that they had formed a "patriotic front" and would unite their forces at Geneva. The union of the two longtime figures in the Zimbabwean liberation struggle was hailed throughout Black Africa as a major breakthrough in obtaining Black majority rule.

In another development last week, U.S. government analysts predicted that Rhodesia's economy will experience "zero growth" this year, largely due to serious difficulties in transporting its exports and the increasing outflow of skilled labor — the mass emigration of Whites in anticipation of the takeover of a Black government.

The American analysts said that the Smith government's inability to move all its export goods, including chrome, nickel and tobacco, to South African harbors for shipment to world markets, caused by congestion in South Africa's railroad system, is the primary cause for the transport problems.□

Pentagon Plans Southwest Canal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE9

The Army Voyagers, carrying 30 tons of cargo, can go directly from ship to shore and then roar inland at overland speeds of 50 m.p.h. — without having to stop for time-consuming docking and unloading.

The Voyager, says Bell Aerospace's Don Norton, "is capable of cruising over great inland distances as long as the surface is flat and not hilly." He adds that "the U.S. military is definitely serious" about the possibility of using the craft on the overland canal route.

According to Dindinger's calculations, a route with slopes no greater than the 14 per cent considered achievable by SEVs (a 14-foot vertical rise over a horizontal distance of 100 feet) is feasible across the southwestern U.S.

Dindinger's preliminary terrain analysis — made with contour maps of the Southwest — or indicates a route that originates at Camp Pendleton, California, and proceeds east toward Brownsville, Texas.

PROPOSED ROUTE

The proposed route would cross numerous highways, railroads and rivers that, Dindinger says, would require large overpasses — a relatively simple challenge to the American technology that has built vast jet runways and enormous interstate highways.

The price tag for the 1,985-mile-long, 350-foot-wide route has been calculated by comparing land acquisition costs to the purchase price of land needed for interstate highways. Dindinger

CONTINUED IN LAST COLUMN

CONTINUED FROM FIRST COLUMN

concludes the entire four-state right-of-way could be acquired for roughly $148 million. Cost could be kept to a minimum by using publicly owned land on the Salton Sea and the beds of the Gila and Rio Grande rivers, he says.

The strategic advantages of such a scheme are apparent to the military, which no longer can count safely on the Panama Canal.

By building a supplementary overland route across Florida, the new passage could drastically reduce the travel time beteen the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

PACIFIC FLEET

Dindinger calculates that SEV units of the Pacific Fleet based at San Diego could reinforce the Atlantic Fleet at Norfolk within 43 hours — a giant leap in mobility when compared to the travel time for conventional ships through the Panama Canal.

With a fleet of the big a r-cushioned ships based at Brownsville, the Navy could respond rapidly to military crises on the Atlantic coasts of Europe and Africa or the Pacific coast of Asia.

Brownsville also happens to be near Fort Hood, home of the Army's First and Second Armored Divisions, which could be dispatched as combat-ready troops via SEVs to either hemisphere.

Echoing Teddy Roosevelt's "big stick" policy in the Caribbean, Dindinger concludes, "This mobility. . .should greatly enhance the deterrent weight of forces in being, both strategically and in the arena of international diplomacy."☐

Letters to the Editor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

McNEIL PENITENTIARY FOOD BOYCOTT

However, it is also noted that several of them have charges against the institution pending in the local courts. One man, Odell Bennett, had been on a grievance committee at Leavenworth and was well acquainted with the warden who just arrived here from there. He too had a case pending in court. He swears he had nothing to do with the strike, but had been singled out because of his activities at Leavenworth.

A year ago, the ex-warden, H. Rauch, promised that telephones would be installed in the yard. Cables are laid, but the phones never got put in. The men were also asking for the telephones, because being allowed only one phone call every three months is quite an unnecessary restriction. Now the new warden, Putnam, has promised they will be installed within 60 days.

They also have asked for better visiting privileges. Several men have had their women removed from the approved list by their case manager. Not because the women were any danger or threat to the "orderly running of the institution," but only because the case manager didn't believe a man was able to make a responsible choice. Also, several women who came more than 1,500 miles for a few days visit with their husbands were denied an extra day's visit by the same case-manager. There was no possibility that the man would be skipping his very important job at the institution, because there are many men without jobs, and also a waiting list for a $.21 an hour job.

About the commissary — a 35 cent birthday card costs 50 cents and a jar of instant coffee costs 50 cents more than it does at the local supermarket (which is also overpriced). Everything in there is geared for profit.

Since the boycott one woman was also removed from her husband's visiting list. She was at the dock on Sunday, and it was alleged she was organizing a demonstration. Not true — as several women who were with her have attested.

The medical facilities have been described many times as being inefficient, filthy and unsanitary. One man was heard to say, "I'd rather die than have to put a filthy thermometer in my mouth." Another man, who had gone to the medical area because he believed there was something radically wrong with him, was told he was in good health. The following day he was rushed to the hospital and died there from extensive cancer. And there's no way the men can make a complaint because immediately there are reprisals. All they can do is "grin and bear it." It is so easy for a complainant to find a weapon or some drugs in his properties. And that can add 10 to 15 years on to his sentence.

Letters to attorneys, senators or congressmen never have seemed to reach their destination.

Like all prisons, McNeil is autonomous. The Bureau of Prisons in Washington, D.C., admits it has no control over the discriminatory actions of the "team" or "case managers." Of course there are channels for grievances, but it might take 3 months before Step One is responded to.

And now — since the boycott — a metal detector has been installed and all visitors are subjected to search. Also the men on the inside must undergo a skin search both before and after seeing their visitors.

The attitudes of the guards in the Visiting Room are quite unbelievable. One woman was seen to touch her husband for a brief second, which prompted a guard to come running over to them screaming, "If you do that again your visits will be terminated immediately." The woman was quite embarrassed. What is so immoral about touching someone you care for? They certainly need to get better visiting facilities where families and friends could share a quiet afternoon together. The ex-warden said they had no money to build anything. But, he also admitted that the chapel had been built free by the inmates. Why not a decent visiting facility too?

Sincerely,
(Name withheld by request.)

INMATE GETS "BETTER LOOK ON LIFE"

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

I was getting lots out of the newspapers that you were sending me and it gave me a better look on life and the things that can happen to me on the streets and in jail or in a hospital.

I have moved to a maximum unit, been put on a lot of medication and am in need of help.

With this letter I will send you the letters, I have written in the past and will start writing you by the month to let you know how I'm doing.

I will be in the hospital for some time to come and would like to receive more of your letters and more of your newspapers if it is possible.

If you can, would you send someone to visit and talk with me to give a little support? I do like to exchange ideas.

Sincerely yours,
Freddie Lee Taylor
Patton State Mental Hospital
Patton, Calif.

Azanian Actors To Be Tried

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were apparently the reason for their arrests. Members of the Transkei security police who were in the audience at the Butterworth performance accused the Black actors with referring to the Transkei as a dumping ground for dispossessed urban Blacks as well as predicting bloodshed after the "homeland" receives its "independence" from South Africa on October 26.

The Transkei will be the first of the nine "homelands" to become "independent" under the South African government's policy of "separate development." The Organization of African Unity (OAU) has called for a diplomatic boycott of the territory on the grounds that the sham "independence" is merely a perpetuation of apartheid.☐


YES ON 14
EMORY